UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alicia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deshazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Malben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award  
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship  
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship  
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship  
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships  
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship  
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the  
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus  
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for  
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)  
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Lewis F. Jeffer Scholarship Endowment  
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine  
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment  
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship  
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship  
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship  
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship  
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship  
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust  
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship  
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship  
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund  
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship  
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine  
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantí G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfled Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship

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Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* 

Welcome 
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks 
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association 
V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker 
Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address 
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards 
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking 
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**  
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**  
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they gracially served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
**Welcome** to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

**Safety and Courtesy**

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

**The White Coat Ceremony**

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

**About the Procession and Cloaking**

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans
Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans
Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# Class Entering 2021

## By Learning Community

### Hill Learning Community

- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**  
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell  
Meredith Leigh Burns  
Karen Joyce Carter  
Marissa Hope Dogan  
Riley Cain Taylor Duke  
Zoe Nichole Fokakis  
Elliott Dreyspring Herron  
Benjamin Michael Honan  
Luke Isaac Jones  
Bradford J. Minor  
Alisa Alexandria Mobley  
Aneesh Pathak  
Madeline Grace Ragland  
Sarah Grace Trulove  
Ian Timothy Tsekouras  
Marie Louise Tucker  
Joshua Daniel Waldeck  
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**  
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III  
Alecia Alto  
Charles Edward Baker  
Isha Chaudhary  
Edward Huang  
Javarus Humphries  
Amy Rajesh Jasani  
Kyle Robert Landers  
Jimmy Logan Norris  
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan  
Mackenzie Quinn Porten  
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk  
Sunya Reddy  
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand  
Andrew Zack Saddekni  
John Andrew Soldner  
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship

Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship

Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*          Students and stage party

Welcome               Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                       Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks       Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                       Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association    V. Michael Bivins, MD
                       President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker    Craig Hoesley, MD
                       Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address        Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                       2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards        Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking    Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                       Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*          Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
BARFIELD CARTER LEARNING COMMUNITY

Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

FINLEY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr., MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOVED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantl G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

  Angela Flaniken, Violin
  Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                           President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

- Amber Ann Bell
- Meredith Leigh Burns
- Karen Joyce Carter
- Marissa Hope Dogan
- Riley Cain Taylor Duke
- Zoe Nichole Fokakis
- Elliott Dreyspring Herron
- Benjamin Michael Honan
- Luke Isaac Jones
- Bradford J. Minor
- Alisa Alexandria Mobley
- Aneesh Pathak
- Madeline Grace Ragland
- Sarah Grace Trulove
- Ian Timothy Tsekouras
- Marie Louise Tucker
- Joshua Daniel Waldeck
- Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

- Tommy Ralph McRae, III
- Alecia Alto
- Charles Edward Baker
- Isha Chaudhary
- Edward Huang
- Javarus Humphries
- Amy Rajesh Jasani
- Kyle Robert Landers
- Jimmy Logan Norris
- Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
- Mackenzie Quinn Porten
- Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
- Sunya Reddy
- Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
- Andrew Zack Saddekni
- John Andrew Soldner
- Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
          Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
          Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
          Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership
Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership
Marcia Chessbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffan Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership
Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award

The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from — and the professionalism he has observed in — Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
**CLASS ENTERING 2021**
**BY LEARNING COMMUNITY**

**Hamilton Learning Community**
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
   Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
   Samuel Johnson
   Allen Joop
   Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
   Hemant Srivastava
   Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
   Cynthia Lauren Mims
   Andrew Wilson Mitchell
   Hailey Mody
   Ashton Victoria Robinson
   Benjamin Rush Rogers
   Bethany May Sparks
   Austin David Wall, III
   Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Ann Bell</td>
<td>Tommy Ralph McRae, III</td>
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<td>Meredith Leigh Burns</td>
<td>Alecia Alto</td>
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<td>Karen Joyce Carter</td>
<td>Charles Edward Baker</td>
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<td>Marissa Hope Dogan</td>
<td>Isha Chaudhary</td>
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<td>Riley Cain Taylor Duke</td>
<td>Edward Huang</td>
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<td>Zoe Nichole Fokakis</td>
<td>Javarus Humphries</td>
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<td>Elliott Dreyspring Herron</td>
<td>Amy Rajesh Jasani</td>
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<td>Benjamin Michael Honan</td>
<td>Kyle Robert Landers</td>
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<td>Luke Isaac Jones</td>
<td>Jimmy Logan Norris</td>
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<td>Bradford J. Minor</td>
<td>Srivatsan Ponnazhagan</td>
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<td>Alisa Alexandria Mobley</td>
<td>Mackenzie Quinn Porten</td>
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<td>Aneesh Pathak</td>
<td>Federico Ivan Prokopczuk</td>
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<td>Madeline Grace Ragland</td>
<td>Sunya Reddy</td>
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<td>Sarah Grace Trulove</td>
<td>Karthik Eyyani Sadanand</td>
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<td>Ian Timothy Tsekouras</td>
<td>Andrew Zack Saddekni</td>
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<td>Marie Louise Tucker</td>
<td>John Andrew Soldner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Daniel Waldeck</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Brooke White</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

    Luke Samuel Anderson
    Shaina Danielle Bolden
    Ann Carol Braswell
    Parker Tulaire Cobbs
    Matthew Everett Dean
    Clayton Farris
    Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
    Cole Davis Garrison
    Jessica Morgan Jenkins
    William Paul Kretzschmar
    Elizabeth Carter Marks
    Nicholas Tate McCarthy
    Charlotte Rainier McRae
    Khaldia Khalil Osman
    Reid Harrison Reeves
    Lauren Nicole Sullivan
    Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni'celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandrina Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
# CLASS ENTERING 2021

## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNeillage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
**Welcome** to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

**Safety and Courtesy**

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

**The White Coat Ceremony**

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

**About the Procession and Cloaking**

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

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<th>Mentor Name</th>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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### Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

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<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in med- ical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educa- tor Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to re- search health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
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Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles. Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*                              Students and stage party

Welcome                                  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                                          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks                          Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                                          Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker          Craig Hoesley, MD
                                          Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address                          Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                                          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards                   Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking    Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                          Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*                               Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahtti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.

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The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Mariana Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradyoid J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alicia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOEWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*                      Students and stage party

Welcome                        Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                                Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks               Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                                Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association
V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address               Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                                2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards         Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*                     Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
**Learning Communities**

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
**CLASS ENTERING 2021**  
**BY LEARNING COMMUNITY**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
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<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
S. Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund

**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
         Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                 President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                               Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                       Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the "Dog Bite Doctor" and the "Battle Surgeon" for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapfer Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>James Walker Phillips</td>
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<td>Henry Hamilton Smith T</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
 BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffer Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Elise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffer scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newcombe, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles. Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*

Welcome
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association
V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor  
Virginia Sterling Hayley  
Sean Edward Haskell  
Margaret Lee Baldwin  
Isabella Alonso Blair  
Jamie Renee Davison  
McKenzie Emma Foxall  
Sarah Michelle Fuller  
Hannah Margaret Goymer  
Omar Hamid  
Trinity Nicole Houston  
William Christopher Illiano  
Victoria Susan Jiminez  
Samuel Johnson  
Allen Joop  
Tyler Lynd  
Caleb Ryan McLachlan  
Landon Joseph McNellage  
Jared Luke Ridgeway  
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto  
Hemant Srivastava  
Anna Paige Wilson

# Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor  
Brooks Neil Bergman  
Amiria Pearl Blakely  
Jackson Lee Broadfoot  
Carla Danielle Brown  
Anupa Devi Ghimire  
Grace Abigail Glidden  
Thomas Stewart Gwin  
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton  
Brannan William Martens  
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan  
Cynthia Lauren Mims  
Andrew Wilson Mitchell  
Hailey Mody  
Ashton Victoria Robinson  
Benjamin Rush Rogers  
Bethany May Sparks  
Austin David Wall, III  
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris

Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer is an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                   President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# Class Entering 2021

## By Learning Community

### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Ann Bell</td>
<td>Tommy Ralph McRae, III</td>
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<td>Meredith Leigh Burns</td>
<td>Alecia Alto</td>
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<td>Karen Joyce Carter</td>
<td>Charles Edward Baker</td>
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<td>Marissa Hope Dogan</td>
<td>Isha Chaudhary</td>
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<td>Riley Cain Taylor Duke</td>
<td>Edward Huang</td>
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<td>Zoe Nichole Fokakis</td>
<td>Javarus Humphries</td>
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<td>Elliott Dreyspring Herron</td>
<td>Amy Rajesh Jasani</td>
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<td>Benjamin Michael Honan</td>
<td>Kyle Robert Landers</td>
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<td>Luke Isaac Jones</td>
<td>Jimmy Logan Norris</td>
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<td>Bradford J. Minor</td>
<td>Srivatsan Ponnazhagan</td>
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<td>Alisa Alexandria Mobley</td>
<td>Mackenzie Quinn Porten</td>
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<td>Aneesh Pathak</td>
<td>Federico Ivan Prokopczuk</td>
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<td>Madeline Grace Ragland</td>
<td>Sunya Reddy</td>
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<td>Sarah Grace Trulove</td>
<td>Karthik Eyyani Sadanand</td>
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<td>Ian Timothy Tsekouras</td>
<td>Andrew Zack Saddekni</td>
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<td>Marie Louise Tucker</td>
<td>John Andrew Soldner</td>
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<td>Joshua Daniel Waldeck</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Brooke White</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead
Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
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UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greetings from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# Class Enterling 2021

## By Learning Community

### Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Malben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

   Angela Flaniken, Violin
   Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley  
Sean Edward Haskell  
Margaret Lee Baldwin  
Isabella Alonso Blair  
Jamie Renee Davison  
McKenzie Emma Foxall  
Sarah Michelle Fuller  
Hannah Margaret Goymer  
Omar Hamid  
Trinity Nicole Houston  
William Christopher Illiano  
Victoria Susan Jiminez  
Samuel Johnson  
Allen Joop  
Tyler Lynd  
Caleb Ryan McLachlan  
Landon Joseph McNellage  
Jared Luke Ridgeway  
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto  
Hemant Srivastava  
Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman  
Amiria Pearl Blakely  
Jackson Lee Broadfoot  
Carla Danielle Brown  
Anupa Devi Ghimire  
Grace Abigail Glidden  
Thomas Stewart Gwin  
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton  
Brannan William Martens  
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan  
Cynthia Lauren Mims  
Andrew Wilson Mitchell  
Hailey Mody  
Ashton Victoria Robinson  
Benjamin Rush Rogers  
Bethany May Sparks  
Austin David Wall, III  
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington

CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOVED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
Dr. John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*    Students and stage party

Welcome    Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
            Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks    Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
            Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association    V. Michael Bivins, MD
            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker    Craig Hoesley, MD
            Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address    Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
            2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards    Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking    Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
            Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*    Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
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<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhatkar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDO荆ED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the 
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the 
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional 
Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chanice White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff
UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
  Angela Flaniken, Violin
  Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjorne, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Virginia Sterling Hayley
  - Sean Edward Haskell
  - Margaret Lee Baldwin
  - Isabella Alonso Blair
  - Jamie Renee Davison
  - McKenzie Emma Foxall
  - Sarah Michelle Fuller
  - Hannah Margaret Goymer
  - Omar Hamid
  - Trinity Nicole Houston
  - William Christopher Illiano
  - Victoria Susan Jiminez
  - Samuel Johnson
  - Allen Joop
  - Tyler Lynd
  - Caleb Ryan McLachlan
  - Landon Joseph McNellage
  - Jared Luke Ridgeway
  - Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
  - Hemant Srivastava
  - Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Brooks Neil Bergman
  - Amiria Pearl Blakely
  - Jackson Lee Broadfoot
  - Carla Danielle Brown
  - Anupa Devi Ghimire
  - Grace Abigail Glidden
  - Thomas Stewart Gwin
  - Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
  - Brannan William Martens
  - Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
  - Cynthia Lauren Mims
  - Andrew Wilson Mitchell
  - Hailey Mody
  - Ashton Victoria Robinson
  - Benjamin Rush Rogers
  - Bethany May Sparks
  - Austin David Wall, III
  - Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                           President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
**Birmingham Department Leadership**

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

**Huntsville Department Leadership**

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

**Tuscaloosa Department Leadership**

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo. The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOVED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdemmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
**Welcome** to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

**Safety and Courtesy**

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

**The White Coat Ceremony**

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

**About the Procession and Cloaking**

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurolog y
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, ”The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
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Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship

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John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

   Angela Flaniken, Violin
   Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
### CLASS ENTERING 2021
#### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
**CLASS ENTERING 2021**  
**BY LEARNING COMMUNITY**

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<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Malben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff
UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
   Angela Flaniken, Violin
   Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                               Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                    Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Entering 2021 by Learning Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Barfield Carter Learning Community</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Finley Learning Community**            |
| Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor      |
| Yolanda Amezaga                           |
| Cody Michael Anger                       |
| Devin Ray Dobbins                         |
| Kaitlyn Leigh Estes                      |
| Taylor Nicole Golden                     |
| Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux             |
| Sheena Khan                               |
| Jenna Lee McLaughlin                      |
| Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson                 |
| Andrew Boyd Price                         |
| William Hunter Scott                      |
| Anna Katherine Tankersley                 |
| Lillie Grace Veazey                       |
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klasser Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
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Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington

CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.

SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She has spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

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UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
**Program**

**Procession***
- Students and stage party

**Welcome**
- Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  - Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

**Opening Remarks**
- Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  - Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

**Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association**
- V. Michael Bivins, MD
  - President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**
- Craig Hoesley, MD
  - Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

**Keynote Address**
- Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  - 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

**Presentation of Awards**
- Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

**Presentation of Students for Cloaking**
- Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  - Associate Dean for Students

**Cloaking of Students**

**Recession***
- Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hamilton Learning Community</th>
<th>Harrison Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marissa Natelson Love, MD,</td>
<td>Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
<td>Peter G. Abdelmessih</td>
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<td>Priyanka Ahuja</td>
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<td>Fizza Mahmood</td>
<td>Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV</td>
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<td>Bipul Babu Mainali</td>
<td>Javier Kenichi Nishikawa</td>
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<td>Savannah Sally Petrus</td>
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<td>Elisabeth Christine Pettibone</td>
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<td>Veronica Michelle Smith</td>
<td>Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford</td>
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<td>Bradley Tyler Thigpen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Nicole Usrey</td>
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</tbody>
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## Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley  
Sean Edward Haskell  
Margaret Lee Baldwin  
Isabella Alonso Blair  
Jamie Renee Davison  
McKenzie Emma Foxall  
Sarah Michelle Fuller  
Hannah Margaret Goymer  
Omar Hamid  
Trinity Nicole Houston  
William Christopher Illiano  
Victoria Susan Jiminez  
Samuel Johnson  
Allen Joop  
Tyler Lynd  
Caleb Ryan McLachlan  
Landon Joseph McNellage  
Jared Luke Ridgeway  
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto  
Hemant Srivastava  
Anna Paige Wilson

## Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman  
Amiria Pearl Blakely  
Jackson Lee Broadfoot  
Carla Danielle Brown  
Anupa Devi Ghimire  
Grace Abigail Glidden  
Thomas Stewart Gwin  
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton  
Brannan William Martens  
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan  
Cynthia Lauren Mims  
Andrew Wilson Mitchell  
Hailey Mody  
Ashton Victoria Robinson  
Benjamin Rush Rogers  
Bethany May Sparks  
Austin David Wall, III  
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
  Benjamin Balcon Cage
  Jessica Anne Graham
  Kameron Anderson Hagerla
  Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  Anna Bremer Inman
  John Michael Woods Kaylor
  Stefan Kovac
  Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  Tanvee Sinha
  James Stallworth Jr.
  David Marian Sylvester
  Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
  Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  Zachary Chase Ballinger
  Diarra Lashae Bender
  Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  Divya Goel
  Hannah Lee Green
  Jacob William Greenway
  Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
  James Franklin Roberson, II
  Isaac Delain Robinson
  Benjamin Tran
  Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunavanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
  Benjamin Balcon Cage
  Jessica Anne Graham
  Kameron Anderson Hagerla
  Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  Anna Bremer Inman
  John Michael Woods Kaylor
  Stefan Kovac
  Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  Tanvee Sinha
  James Stallworth Jr.
  David Marian Sylvester
  Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
  Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  Zachary Chase Ballinger
  Diarra Lashae Bender
  Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  Divya Goel
  Hannah Lee Green
  Jacob William Greenway
  Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
  James Franklin Roberson, II
  Isaac Delain Robinson
  Benjamin Tran
  Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76. After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham. Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## Hill Learning Community

- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

## Hirschowitz Learning Community

- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award  
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship  
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship  
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship  
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships  
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship  
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the  
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus  
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for  
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)  
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment  
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine  
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment  
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship  
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship  
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship  
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship  
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship  
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust  
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapier Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship  
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship  
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund  
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship  
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine  
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles. Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijaal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer is an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from — and the professionalism he has observed in — Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambliss Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
## Program

**Procession***  
Students and stage party

**Welcome**  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

**Opening Remarks**  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

**Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association**  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

**Keynote Address**  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

**Presentation of Awards**  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

**Presentation of Students for Cloaking**  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

**Cloaking of Students**

**Recession***  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
**Birmingham Department Leadership**

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

**Huntsville Department Leadership**

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

**Tuscaloosa Department Leadership**

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action. Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

  Angela Flaniken, Violin
  Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

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Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

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Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
### CLASS ENTERING 2021
#### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>James Walker Phillips</td>
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<td>Henry Hamilton Smith T</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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</table>

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson
- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

- Amber Ann Bell
- Meredith Leigh Burns
- Karen Joyce Carter
- Marissa Hope Dogan
- Riley Cain Taylor Duke
- Zoe Nichole Fokakis
- Elliott Dreyspring Herron
- Benjamin Michael Honan
- Luke Isaac Jones
- Bradford J. Minor
- Alisa Alexandria Mobley
- Aneesh Pathak
- Madeline Grace Ragland
- Sarah Grace Trulove
- Ian Timothy Tsekouras
- Marie Louise Tucker
- Joshua Daniel Waldeck
- Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

- Tommy Ralph McRae, III
- Alecia Alto
- Charles Edward Baker
- Isha Chaudhary
- Edward Huang
- Javarus Humphries
- Amy Rajesh Jasani
- Kyle Robert Landers
- Jimmy Logan Norris
- Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
- Mackenzie Quinn Porten
- Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
- Sunya Reddy
- Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
- Andrew Zack Saddekni
- John Andrew Soldner
- Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead
Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award  
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship  
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship  
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship  
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships  
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship  
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the  
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus  
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for  
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)  
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment  
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine  
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment  
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship  
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship  
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship  
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship  
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship  
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust  
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship  
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship  
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund  
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship  
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine  
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Amber Ann Bell
- Meredith Leigh Burns
- Karen Joyce Carter
- Marissa Hope Dogan
- Riley Cain Taylor Duke
- Zoe Nichole Fokakis
- Elliott Dreyspring Herron
- Benjamin Michael Honan
- Luke Isaac Jones
- Bradford J. Minor
- Alisa Alexandria Mobley
- Aneesh Pathak
- Madeline Grace Ragland
- Sarah Grace Trulove
- Ian Timothy Tsekouras
- Marie Louise Tucker
- Joshua Daniel Waldeck
- Ashley Brooke White

- Tommy Ralph McRae, III
- Alecia Alto
- Charles Edward Baker
- Isha Chaudhary
- Edward Huang
- Javarus Humphries
- Amy Rajesh Jasani
- Kyle Robert Landers
- Jimmy Logan Norris
- Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
- Mackenzie Quinn Porten
- Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
- Sunya Reddy
- Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
- Andrew Zack Saddekni
- John Andrew Soldner
- Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris

Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy

Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

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Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
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Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard DeVore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” DeVore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
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William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
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Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
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Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

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University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6–7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8–13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*       Students and stage party

Welcome          Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                 Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association   V. Michael Bivins, MD
                 President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker      Craig Hoesley, MD
                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address    Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking    Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*        Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahtti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology  

Huntsville Department Leadership  

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery  

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership  

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

   Angela Flaniken, Violin
   Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead
Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff
UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaunda Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
  Benjamin Balcon Cage
  Jessica Anne Graham
  Kameron Anderson Hagerla
  Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  Anna Bremer Inman
  John Michael Woods Kaylor
  Stefan Kovac
  Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  Tanvee Sinha
  James Stallworth Jr.
  David Marian Sylvester
  Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
  Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  Zachary Chase Ballinger
  Diarra Lashae Bender
  Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  Divya Goel
  Hannah Lee Green
  Jacob William Greenway
  Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
  James Franklin Roberson, II
  Isaac Delain Robinson
  Benjamin Tran
  Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, "The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, "We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology

2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award

Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods, Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP

2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award

The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Dietelhnm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
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Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today's ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alicia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She is a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship

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John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

**Safety and Courtesy**

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

**The White Coat Ceremony**

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

**About the Procession and Cloaking**

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorzki
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley  
Sean Edward Haskell  
Margaret Lee Baldwin  
Isabella Alonso Blair  
Jamie Renee Davison  
McKenzie Emma Foxall  
Sarah Michelle Fuller  
Hannah Margaret Goymer  
Omar Hamid  
Trinity Nicole Houston  
William Christopher Illiano  
Victoria Susan Jiminez  
Samuel Johnson  
Allen Joop  
Tyler Lynd  
Caleb Ryan McLachlan  
Landon Joseph McNellage  
Jared Luke Ridgeway  
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto  
Hemant Srivastava  
Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman  
Amiria Pearl Blakely  
Jackson Lee Broadfoot  
Carla Danielle Brown  
Anupa Devi Ghimire  
Grace Abigail Glidden  
Thomas Stewart Gwin  
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton  
Brannan William Martens  
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan  
Cynthia Lauren Mims  
Andrew Wilson Mitchell  
Hailey Mody  
Ashton Victoria Robinson  
Benjamin Rush Rogers  
Bethany May Sparks  
Austin David Wall, III  
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021 
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community 
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell  
Meredith Leigh Burns  
Karen Joyce Carter  
Marissa Hope Dogan  
Riley Cain Taylor Duke  
Zoe Nichole Fokakis  
Elliott Dreyspring Herron  
Benjamin Michael Honan  
Luke Isaac Jones  
Bradford J. Minor  
Alisa Alexandria Mobley  
Aneesh Pathak  
Madeline Grace Ragland  
Sarah Grace Trulove  
Ian Timothy Tsekouras  
Marie Louise Tucker  
Joshua Daniel Waldeck  
Ashley Brooke White  

Oparil Learning Community  
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor  

Tommy Ralph McRae, III  
Alecia Alto  
Charles Edward Baker  
Isha Chaudhary  
Edward Huang  
Javarus Humphries  
Amy Rajesh Jasani  
Kyle Robert Landers  
Jimmy Logan Norris  
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan  
Mackenzie Quinn Porten  
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk  
Sunya Reddy  
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand  
Andrew Zack Saddekni  
John Andrew Soldner  
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalfia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action. Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Jr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
**Program**

**Procession**

*Students and stage party*

**Welcome**

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

**Opening Remarks**

Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

**Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association**

V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

**Keynote Address**

Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

**Presentation of Awards**

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

**Presentation of Students for Cloaking**

Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

**Cloaking of Students**

**Recession**

*Students and stage party*

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.*
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulpallli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhapar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

- Amber Ann Bell
- Meredith Leigh Burns
- Karen Joyce Carter
- Marissa Hope Dogan
- Riley Cain Taylor Duke
- Zoe Nichole Fokakis
- Elliott Dreyspring Herron
- Benjamin Michael Honan
- Luke Isaac Jones
- Bradford J. Minor
- Alisa Alexandria Mobley
- Aneesh Pathak
- Madeline Grace Ragland
- Sarah Grace Trulove
- Ian Timothy Tsekouras
- Marie Louise Tucker
- Joshua Daniel Waldeck
- Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

- Tommy Ralph McRae, III
- Alecia Alto
- Charles Edward Baker
- Isha Chaudhary
- Edward Huang
- Javarus Humphries
- Amy Rajesh Jasani
- Kyle Robert Landers
- Jimmy Logan Norris
- Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
- Mackenzie Quinn Porten
- Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
- Sunya Reddy
- Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
- Andrew Zack Saddekni
- John Andrew Soldner
- Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenaault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Entering 2021</th>
<th>By Learning Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Barfield Carter Learning Community</strong></td>
<td><strong>Finley Learning Community</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>James Walker Phillips</td>
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<td>Henry Hamilton Smith T</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim's family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her father served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship

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Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome       Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
               Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks       Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                      Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association       V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                                President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker       Craig Hoesley, MD
                                       Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address       Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                       2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards       Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking       Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                        Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Umar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership
Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership
Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership
Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

FINLEY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlynn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
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<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
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<td>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Amber Ann Bell</td>
<td>Tommy Ralph McRae, III</td>
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<td>Alecia Alto</td>
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<td>Charles Edward Baker</td>
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<td>Zoe Nichole Fokakis</td>
<td>Javarus Humphries</td>
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<td>Elliott Dreyspring Herron</td>
<td>Amy Rajesh Jasani</td>
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<td>Federico Ivan Prokopczuk</td>
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<td>Sunya Reddy</td>
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<td>Karthik Eyyani Sadanand</td>
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<td>Andrew Zack Saddekni</td>
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<td>Marie Louise Tucker</td>
<td>John Andrew Soldner</td>
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<td>Joshua Daniel Waldeck</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
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<td>Ashley Brooke White</td>
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Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
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Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff
UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greetings from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdimessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley  
Sean Edward Haskell  
Margaret Lee Baldwin  
Isabella Alonso Blair  
Jamie Renee Davison  
McKenzie Emma Foxall  
Sarah Michelle Fuller  
Hannah Margaret Goymer  
Omar Hamid  
Trinity Nicole Houston  
William Christopher Illiano  
Victoria Susan Jiminez  
Samuel Johnson  
Allen Joop  
Tyler Lynd  
Caleb Ryan McLachlan  
Landon Joseph McNellage  
Jared Luke Ridgeway  
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto  
Hemant Srivastava  
Anna Paige Wilson

# Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman  
Amiria Pearl Blakely  
Jackson Lee Broadfoot  
Carla Danielle Brown  
Anupa Devi Ghimire  
Grace Abigail Glidden  
Thomas Stewart Gwin  
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton  
Brannan William Martens  
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan  
Cynthia Lauren Mims  
Andrew Wilson Mitchell  
Hailey Mody  
Ashton Victoria Robinson  
Benjamin Rush Rogers  
Bethany May Sparks  
Austin David Wall, III  
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
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UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
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Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles. Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*                  Students and stage party

Welcome                   Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                           Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks           Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                           Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association   V. Michael Bivins, MD
                           President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker    Craig Hoesley, MD
                           Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address            Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                           2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards     Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                           Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*                  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

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Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

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Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
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Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
**Learning Communities**

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
**CLASS ENTERING 2021**
**BY LEARNING COMMUNITY**

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli  
Melissa Lyn Ebeling  
Rachel Marie Frazier  
Adam Jesse Hoesley  
Garrett James Jebeles  
Wenyun Jiang  
Haley Michelle Katz  
Erin Leigh LaGrone  
Alexander Hutchinson Lee  
Ian David Miranda  
Hamad Malik Muhammad  
Scott Nguyen  
Lauren Victoria Odom  
James Walker Phillips  
Henry Hamilton Smith T  
Ataya Ni’celle Spears  
Madyson Grace Taylor  
Halle Hope Thannickal  
Michael Yi Ming Wang  
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga  
Cody Michael Anger  
Devin Ray Dobbins  
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes  
Taylor Nicole Golden  
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux  
Sheena Khan  
Jenna Lee McLaughlin  
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson  
Andrew Boyd Price  
William Hunter Scott  
Anna Katherine Tankersley  
Lillie Grace Veazey
# CLASS ENTERING 2021

## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hamilton Learning Community

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

- Ashley Caraleah Archer
- Lindsay Dale James
- Chloe Carroll
- Natalie Alexandra Dorin
- Denver Russel Fuller
- Spencer Gibbs
- Evan Garrison Gross
- Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
- Brittany Renee Isaac
- Emory Brennis Johnson
- Fizza Mahmood
- Bipul Babu Mainali
- Jordan Henderson McGill
- Bryan Richard Mortimer
- Kimberly Laura Romanoff
- Veronica Michelle Smith
- Bradley Tyler Thigpen
- Lauren Nicole Usrey

### Harrison Learning Community

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

- Peter G. Abdelmessih
- Priyanka Ahuja
- Caleb Bush
- Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
- Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
- Kaysie Angel Freer
- Amayrani Garcia
- Cortney Lauren Haymon
- Hudson Honeywell
- Madison Marie Jeziorski
- Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
- Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
- Cara Paige Parker
- Savannah Sally Petrus
- Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
- Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action. Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

Dr. Spencer is an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award

Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

  Angela Flaniken, Violin
  Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Umar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.

BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

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The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff
UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
   Angela Flaniken, Violin
   Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*   Students and stage party

Welcome    Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
            Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks    Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                    Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association    V. Michael Bivins, MD
                    President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker    Craig Hoesley, MD
                                    Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address    Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                    2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards    Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking    Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                    Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*   Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahtti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli  
Melissa Lyn Ebeling  
Rachel Marie Frazier  
Adam Jesse Hoesley  
Garrett James Jebeles  
Wenyun Jiang  
Haley Michelle Katz  
Erin Leigh LaGrone  
Alexander Hutchinson Lee  
Ian David Miranda  
Hamad Malik Muhammad  
Scott Nguyen  
Lauren Victoria Odom  
James Walker Phillips  
Henry Hamilton Smith T  
Ataya Ni’celle Spears  
Madyson Grace Taylor  
Halle Hope Thannickal  
Michael Yi Ming Wang  
Mckinley Rae Williams

### Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga  
Cody Michael Anger  
Devin Ray Dobbins  
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes  
Taylor Nicole Golden  
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux  
Sheena Khan  
Jenna Lee McLaughlin  
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson  
Andrew Boyd Price  
William Hunter Scott  
Anna Katherine Tankersley  
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
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**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi

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**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddeki
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
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Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
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Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
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Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
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Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                    Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                           President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                         2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                       Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**

Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jnr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grand-children, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her father, a member of the military, served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley's footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award

Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship

Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornstii, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmoud
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley  
Sean Edward Haskell  
Margaret Lee Baldwin  
Isabella Alonso Blair  
Jamie Renee Davison  
McKenzie Emma Foxall  
Sarah Michelle Fuller  
Hannah Margaret Goymer  
Omar Hamid  
Trinity Nicole Houston  
William Christopher Illiano  
Victoria Susan Jiminez  
Samuel Johnson  
Allen Joop  
Tyler Lynd  
Caleb Ryan McLachlan  
Landon Joseph McNellage  
Jared Luke Ridgeway  
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto  
Hemant Srivastava  
Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman  
Amiria Pearl Blakely  
Jackson Lee Broadfoot  
Carla Danielle Brown  
Anupa Devi Ghimire  
Grace Abigail Glidden  
Thomas Stewart Gwin  
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton  
Brannan William Martens  
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan  
Cynthia Lauren Mims  
Andrew Wilson Mitchell  
Hailey Mody  
Ashton Victoria Robinson  
Benjamin Rush Rogers  
Bethany May Sparks  
Austin David Wall, III  
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alicia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*     Students and stage party

Welcome     Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
            Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks     Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
            Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association     V. Michael Bivins, MD
            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker     Craig Hoesley, MD
            Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address     Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
            2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards     Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking     Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
            Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*     Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNeilage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award

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Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Elise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*          Students and stage party

Welcome               Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                       Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks       Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                       Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association   V. Michael Bivins, MD
                       President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker        Craig Hoesley, MD
                       Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address              Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                       2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards       Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking   Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                       Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*                Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans
Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans
Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
## McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

- Amber Ann Bell
- Meredith Leigh Burns
- Karen Joyce Carter
- Marissa Hope Dogan
- Riley Cain Taylor Duke
- Zoe Nichole Fokakis
- Elliott Dreyspring Herron
- Benjamin Michael Honan
  - Luke Isaac Jones
  - Bradford J. Minor
- Alisa Alexandria Mobley
- Aneesh Pathak
- Madeline Grace Ragland
- Sarah Grace Trulove
- Ian Timothy Tsekouras
- Marie Louise Tucker
- Joshua Daniel Waldeck
- Ashley Brooke White

## Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

- Tommy Ralph McRae, III
  - Alecia Alto
- Charles Edward Baker
  - Isha Chaudhary
  - Edward Huang
- Javarus Humphries
- Amy Rajesh Jasani
- Kyle Robert Landers
- Jimmy Logan Norris
- Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
- Mackenzie Quinn Porten
- Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
  - Sunya Reddy
- Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
- Andrew Zack Saddekni
- John Andrew Soldner
- Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffer Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*                      Students and stage party

Welcome                        Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                                 Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks                Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association
                                 V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                 President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
                                 Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address                 Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards          Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking
                                 Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                 Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*                    Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapfer Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff
UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradyd J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopcuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington

CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*    Students and stage party

Welcome        Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                       Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*    Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devon Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygale Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

- Ashley Caraleah Archer
- Lindsay Dale James
- Chloe Carroll
- Natalie Alexandra Dorin
- Denver Russel Fuller
- Spencer Gibbs
- Evan Garrison Gross
- Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
- Brittany Renee Isaac
- Emory Brennis Johnson
- Fizza Mahmood
- Bipul Babu Mainali
- Jordan Henderson McGill
- Bryan Richard Mortimer
- Kimberly Laura Romanoff
- Veronica Michelle Smith
- Bradley Tyler Thigpen
- Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

- Peter G. Abdelmessih
- Priyanka Ahuja
- Caleb Bush
- Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
- Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
- Kaysie Angel Freer
- Amayrani Garcia
- Cortney Lauren Haymon
- Hudson Honeywell
- Madison Marie Jeziorski
- Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
- Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
- Cara Paige Parker
- Savannah Sally Petrus
- Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
- Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantl G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans
Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans
Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
# BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community

**Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor**

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNeillage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

**Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor**

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

**About the Award**

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Dietelh, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus

UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                    Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                    President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                    2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Hamilton Learning Community

**Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor**

- Ashley Caraleah Archer
- Lindsay Dale James
- Chloe Carroll
- Natalie Alexandra Dorin
- Denver Russel Fuller
- Spencer Gibbs
- Evan Garrison Gross
- Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
- Brittany Renee Isaac
- Emory Brennis Johnson
- Fizza Mahmood
- Bipul Babu Mainali
- Jordan Henderson McGill
- Bryan Richard Mortimer
- Kimberly Laura Romanoff
- Veronica Michelle Smith
- Bradley Tyler Thigpen
- Lauren Nicole Usrey

### Harrison Learning Community

**Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor**

- Peter G. Abdelmessih
- Priyanka Ahuja
- Caleb Bush
- Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
- Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
- Kaysie Angel Freer
- Amayrani Garcia
- Cortney Lauren Haymon
- Hudson Honeywell
- Madison Marie Jeziorski
- Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
- Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
- Cara Paige Parker
- Savannah Sally Petrus
- Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
- Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Drey springs Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddeki
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley's footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

**About the Award**

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER- HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>James Walker Phillips</td>
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<td>Henry Hamilton Smith T</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship

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John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                   President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                   2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

- Benjamin Balcon Cage
- Jessica Anne Graham
- Kameron Anderson Hagerla
- Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
- Anna Bremer Inman
- John Michael Woods Kaylor
- Stefan Kovac
- Gnyata Bhavik Patel
- Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
- Tanvee Sinha
- James Stallworth Jr.
- David Marian Sylvester
- Jordan Harrison Tzabari
- Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

- Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
- Zachary Chase Ballinger
- Diarra Lashae Bender
- Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
- Divya Goel
- Hannah Lee Green
- Jacob William Greenway
- Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
- Alyson Tudong Nguyen
- Matthew Paul Oberkirch
- Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
- James Franklin Roberson, II
- Isaac Delain Robinson
- Benjamin Tran
- Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWeD AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund

**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship**
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*       Students and stage party

Welcome           Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                   Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks   Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                   President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker           Craig Hoesley, MD
                   Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address   Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                   2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards           Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*        Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton Learning Community</th>
<th>Harrison Learning Community</th>
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<td>Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety andCourtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                 President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Laht, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopcuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greetings from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean  
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences  
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research  
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion  
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive  
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research  
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer  
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance  
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health  
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program  
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management  
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office  
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration  
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education  
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)  
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health  
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration  
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education  
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development  
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding  
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship  
Todd Peterson, MD, Students  
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health  
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation  
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education  
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion  
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Virginia Sterling Hayley
  - Sean Edward Haskell
  - Margaret Lee Baldwin
  - Isabella Alonso Blair
  - Jamie Renee Davison
  - McKenzie Emma Foxall
  - Sarah Michelle Fuller
  - Hannah Margaret Goymer
  - Omar Hamid
  - Trinity Nicole Houston
  - William Christopher Illiano
  - Victoria Susan Jiminez
  - Samuel Johnson
  - Allen Joop
  - Tyler Lynd
  - Caleb Ryan McLachlan
  - Landon Joseph McNellage
  - Jared Luke Ridgeway
  - Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
  - Hemant Srivastava
  - Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Brooks Neil Bergman
  - Amiria Pearl Blakely
  - Jackson Lee Broadfoot
  - Carla Danielle Brown
  - Anupa Devi Ghimire
  - Grace Abigail Glidden
  - Thomas Stewart Gwin
  - Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
  - Brannan William Martens
  - Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
  - Cynthia Lauren Mims
  - Andrew Wilson Mitchell
  - Hailey Mody
  - Ashton Victoria Robinson
  - Benjamin Rush Rogers
  - Bethany May Sparks
  - Austin David Wall, III
  - Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alicia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Sadrekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
  - Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
  - Allen Joop
  - Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
**Program**

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
**Learning Communities**

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli  
Melissa Lyn Ebeling  
Rachel Marie Frazier  
Adam Jesse Hoesley  
Garrett James Jebeles  
Wenyun Jiang  
Haley Michelle Katz  
Erin Leigh LaGrone  
Alexander Hutchinson Lee  
Ian David Miranda  
Hamad Malik Muhammad  
Scott Nguyen  
Lauren Victoria Odom  
James Walker Phillips  
Henry Hamilton Smith T  
Ataya Ni’celle Spears  
Madyson Grace Taylor  
Halle Hope Thannickal  
Michael Yi Ming Wang  
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga  
Cody Michael Anger  
Devin Ray Dobbins  
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes  
Taylor Nicole Golden  
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux  
Sheena Khan  
Jenna Lee McLaughlin  
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson  
Andrew Boyd Price  
William Hunter Scott  
Anna Katherine Tankersley  
Lillie Grace Veazey
## Hamilton Learning Community

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

- Ashley Caraleah Archer
- Lindsay Dale James
- Chloe Carroll
- Natalie Alexandra Dorin
- Denver Russel Fuller
- Spencer Gibbs
- Evan Garrison Gross
- Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
- Brittany Renee Isaac
- Emory Brennis Johnson
- Fizza Mahmood
- Bipul Babu Mainali
- Jordan Henderson McGill
- Bryan Richard Mortimer
- Kimberly Laura Romanoff
- Veronica Michelle Smith
- Bradley Tyler Thigpen
- Lauren Nicole Usrey

## Harrison Learning Community

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

- Peter G. Abdemessih
- Priyanka Ahuja
- Caleb Bush
- Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
- Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
- Kaysie Angel Freer
- Amayrani Garcia
- Cortney Lauren Haymon
- Hudson Honeywell
- Madison Marie Jeziorski
- Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
- Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
- Cara Paige Parker
- Savannah Sally Petrus
- Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
- Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community

Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community

Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

**About the Award**

The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medi- school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educa- tor Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Stu- dents Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birming- ham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to re- search health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*     Students and stage party

Welcome         Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                 Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greetings from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
                 President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*      Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahtti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
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<td>James Walker Phillips</td>
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<td>Henry Hamilton Smith T</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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10
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhat
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6–7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*       Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
          Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
          Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
          Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*       Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devon Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhauser, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everest Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundridge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grand-children, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award

The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She is a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award

Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                    Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
**Birmingham Department Leadership**

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

**Huntsville Department Leadership**

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

**Tuscaloosa Department Leadership**

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

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<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jimenez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhatkar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

**About the Award**

The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantl G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker/Role</th>
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<tr>
<td>Procession*</td>
<td>Students and stage party</td>
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</table>
| Welcome                      | Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean |
| Opening Remarks              | Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management |
| Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association | V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association |
| Introduction of Keynote Speaker | Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education |
| Keynote Address              | Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine |
| Presentation of Awards       | Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS |
| Presentation of Students for Cloaking | Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students |
| Cloaking of Students         |                                                                             |
| Recession*                   | Students and stage party                                                     |

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
### Barfield Carter Learning Community

Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

### Finley Learning Community

Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hamilton Learning Community
- **Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor**
  - Ashley Caraleah Archer
  - Lindsay Dale James
  - Chloe Carroll
  - Natalie Alexandra Dorin
  - Denver Russel Fuller
  - Spencer Gibbs
  - Evan Garrison Gross
  - Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
  - Brittany Renee Isaac
  - Emory Brennis Johnson
  - Fizza Mahmoud
  - Bipul Babu Mainali
  - Jordan Henderson McGill
  - Bryan Richard Mortimer
  - Kimberly Laura Romanoff
  - Veronica Michelle Smith
  - Bradley Tyler Thigpen
  - Lauren Nicole Usrey

### Harrison Learning Community
- **Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor**
  - Peter G. Abdelmessih
  - Priyanka Ahuja
  - Caleb Bush
  - Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
  - Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
  - Kaysie Angel Freer
  - Amayrani Garcia
  - Cortney Lauren Haymon
  - Hudson Honeywell
  - Madison Marie Jeziorski
  - Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
  - Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
  - Cara Paige Parker
  - Savannah Sally Petrus
  - Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
  - Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Dietelhnm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:  
Angela Flaniken, Violin  
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*       Students and stage party

Welcome           Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks   Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association   V. Michael Bivins, MD
                  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker   Craig Hoesley, MD
                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address   Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards   Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking   Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*       Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
   Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
   Samuel Johnson
   Allen Joop
   Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
   Hemant Srivastava
   Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
   Cynthia Lauren Mims
   Andrew Wilson Mitchell
   Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
   Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship

Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6–7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8–13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
           Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**

Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**

Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley  
Sean Edward Haskell  
Margaret Lee Baldwin  
Isabella Alonso Blair  
Jamie Renee Davison  
McKenzie Emma Foxall  
Sarah Michelle Fuller  
Hannah Margaret Goymer  
Omar Hamid  
Trinity Nicole Houston  
William Christopher Illiano  
Victoria Susan Jiminez  
Samuel Johnson  
Allen Joop  
Tyler Lynd  
Caleb Ryan McLachlan  
Landon Joseph McNellage  
Jared Luke Ridgeway  
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto  
Hemant Srivastava  
Anna Paige Wilson

## Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman  
Amiria Pearl Blakely  
Jackson Lee Broadfoot  
Carla Danielle Brown  
Anupa Devi Ghimire  
Grace Abigail Glidden  
Thomas Stewart Gwin  
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton  
Brannan William Martens  
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan  
Cynthia Lauren Mims  
Andrew Wilson Mitchell  
Hailey Mody  
Ashton Victoria Robinson  
Benjamin Rush Rogers  
Bethany May Sparks  
Austin David Wall, III  
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabakhara
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UBA Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UA National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

  Angela Flaniken, Violin
  Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devon Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
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Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
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Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
**Program**

**Procession***  
Students and stage party

**Welcome**  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

**Opening Remarks**  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

**Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association**  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

**Keynote Address**  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

**Presentation of Awards**  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

**Presentation of Students for Cloaking**  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

**Cloaking of Students**

**Recession***  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
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Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
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Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
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Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli  
Melissa Lyn Ebeling  
Rachel Marie Frazier  
Adam Jesse Hoesley  
Garrett James Jebeles  
Wenyun Jiang  
Haley Michelle Katz  
Erin Leigh LaGrone  
Alexander Hutchinson Lee  
Ian David Miranda  
Hamad Malik Muhammad  
Scott Nguyen  
Lauren Victoria Odom  
James Walker Phillips  
Henry Hamilton Smith T  
Ataya Ni’celle Spears  
Madyson Grace Taylor  
Halle Hope Thannickal  
Michael Yi Ming Wang  
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga  
Cody Michael Anger  
Devin Ray Dobbins  
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes  
Taylor Nicole Golden  
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux  
Sheena Khan  
Jenna Lee McLaughlin  
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson  
Andrew Boyd Price  
William Hunter Scott  
Anna Katherine Tankersley  
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhapar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan  
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship  
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Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
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Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship  
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB  
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Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship  
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship  
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Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship  
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William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship  
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship  
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship  
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Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship  
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment  
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
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Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
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Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
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Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
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Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble
from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
 Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

# Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

  - Amber Ann Bell
  - Meredith Leigh Burns
  - Karen Joyce Carter
  - Marissa Hope Dogan
  - Riley Cain Taylor Duke
  - Zoe Nichole Fokakis
  - Elliott Dreyspring Herron
  - Benjamin Michael Honan
  - Luke Isaac Jones
  - Bradford J. Minor
  - Alisa Alexandria Mobley
  - Aneesh Pathak
  - Madeline Grace Ragland
  - Sarah Grace Trulove
  - Ian Timothy Tsekouras
  - Marie Louise Tucker
  - Joshua Daniel Waldeck
  - Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

  - Tommy Ralph McRae, III
  - Alecia Alto
  - Charles Edward Baker
  - Isha Chaudhary
  - Edward Huang
  - Javarus Humphries
  - Amy Rajesh Jasani
  - Kyle Robert Landers
  - Jimmy Logan Norris
  - Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
  - Mackenzie Quinn Porten
  - Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
  - Sunya Reddy
  - Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
  - Andrew Zack Saddekni
  - John Andrew Soldner
  - Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klasper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newcome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Maddyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffer Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff
UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyankaa Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Virginia Sterling Hayley
  - Sean Edward Haskell
  - Margaret Lee Baldwin
  - Isabella Alonso Blair
  - Jamie Renee Davison
  - McKenzie Emma Foxall
  - Sarah Michelle Fuller
  - Hannah Margaret Goymer
  - Omar Hamid
  - Trinity Nicole Houston
  - William Christopher Illiano
  - Victoria Susan Jiminez
  - Samuel Johnson
  - Allen Joop
  - Tyler Lynd
  - Caleb Ryan McLachlan
  - Landon Joseph McNellage
  - Jared Luke Ridgeway
  - Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
  - Hemant Srivastava
  - Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Brooks Neil Bergman
  - Amiria Pearl Blakely
  - Jackson Lee Broadfoot
  - Carla Danielle Brown
  - Anupa Devi Ghimire
  - Grace Abigail Glidden
  - Thomas Stewart Gwin
  - Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
  - Brannan William Martens
  - Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
  - Cynthia Lauren Mims
  - Andrew Wilson Mitchell
  - Hailey Mody
  - Ashton Victoria Robinson
  - Benjamin Rush Rogers
  - Bethany May Sparks
  - Austin David Wall, III
  - Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology

2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jefferis Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeoffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Entering 2021</th>
<th>By Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hill Learning Community</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hirschowitz Learning Community</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOVED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                           President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ilan David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madison Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devon Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygaille Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

## Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.  

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.  

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.  

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.  

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.  

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.  

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”  

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”  

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffer Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantl G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
    Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
    Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
    President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
    Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
    2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
    Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recess*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Entering 2021</th>
<th>By Learning Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hill Learning Community</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hirschowitz Learning Community</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<tr>
<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarius Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddeki
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her father served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
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Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
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Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephan J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*          Students and stage party

Welcome               Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                    Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks       Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                    Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                    President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                    Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address       Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                    2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                    Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*           Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                   President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                   2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                       Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan  
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship  
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship  
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship  
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship  
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB  
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship  
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship  
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship  
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship  
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship  
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship  
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship  
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship  
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship  
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment  
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffer Scholarships Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## Class Entering 2021

### By Learning Community

#### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

#### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

- Benjamin Balcon Cage
- Jessica Anne Graham
- Kameron Anderson Hagerla
- Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
- Anna Bremer Inman
- John Michael Woods Kaylor
- Stefan Kovac
- Gnyata Bhavik Patel
- Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
- Tanvee Sinha
- James Stallworth Jr.
- David Marian Sylvester
- Jordan Harrison Tzabari
- Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

- Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
- Zachary Chase Ballinger
- Diarra Lashae Bender
- Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
- Divya Goel
- Hannah Lee Green
- Jacob William Greenway
- Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
- Alyson Tudong Nguyen
- Matthew Paul Oberkirch
- Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
- James Franklin Roberson, II
- Isaac Delain Robinson
- Benjamin Tran
- Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Melben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

   Angela Flaniken, Violin
   Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead
Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chanice White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alicia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from — and the professionalism he has observed in — Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*          Students and stage party

Welcome             Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                   Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks     Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association    V. Michael Bivins, MD
                   President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker    Craig Hoesley, MD
                   Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address       Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                   2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*          Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
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Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

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Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
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Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

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Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
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Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**

Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**

Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**

In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**

Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>Henry Hamilton Smith T</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Brady J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alicia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*          Students and stage party

Welcome              Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                     Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks      Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                     Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                     President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                     Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address       Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                     2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*           Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Virginia Sterling Hayley
  - Sean Edward Haskell
  - Margaret Lee Baldwin
  - Isabella Alonso Blair
  - Jamie Renee Davison
  - McKenzie Emma Foxall
  - Sarah Michelle Fuller
  - Hannah Margaret Goymer
  - Omar Hamid
  - Trinity Nicole Houston
  - William Christopher Illiano
  - Victoria Susan Jiminez
  - Samuel Johnson
  - Allen Joop
  - Tyler Lynd
  - Caleb Ryan McLachlan
  - Landon Joseph McNellage
  - Jared Luke Ridgeway
  - Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
  - Hemant Srivastava
  - Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Brooks Neil Bergman
  - Amiria Pearl Blakely
  - Jackson Lee Broadfoot
  - Carla Danielle Brown
  - Anupa Devi Ghimire
  - Grace Abigail Glidden
  - Thomas Stewart Gwin
  - Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
  - Brannan William Martens
  - Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
  - Cynthia Lauren Mims
  - Andrew Wilson Mitchell
  - Hailey Mody
  - Ashton Victoria Robinson
  - Benjamin Rush Rogers
  - Bethany May Sparks
  - Austin David Wall, III
  - Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship

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Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greetings from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
**Birmingham Department Leadership**

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

**Huntsville Department Leadership**

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

**Tuscaloosa Department Leadership**

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
### Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

### Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### CLASS ENTERING 2021
#### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP,
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
 Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNeillage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional
Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD,
Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean's Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean's Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

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Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
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Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
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Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

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Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
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Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
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<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

10
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
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<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
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<td>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Amber Ann Bell</td>
<td>Tommy Ralph McRae, III</td>
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<td>Meredith Leigh Burns</td>
<td>Alecia Alto</td>
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<td>Charles Edward Baker</td>
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<td>Zoe Nichole Fokakis</td>
<td>Javarus Humphries</td>
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<td>Alisa Alexandria Mobley</td>
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<td>Federico Ivan Prokopczuk</td>
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<td>Madeline Grace Ragland</td>
<td>Sunya Reddy</td>
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<td>Marie Louise Tucker</td>
<td>John Andrew Soldner</td>
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<td>Joshua Daniel Waldeck</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
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<td>Ashley Brooke White</td>
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Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate knowledge into patient care and into action. Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble
from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles. Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
**Birmingham Department Leadership**

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

**Huntsville Department Leadership**

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

**Tuscaloosa Department Leadership**

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mentor Name</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Allen Joop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</table>

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mentor Name</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
</tr>
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<td>Anup Devi Ghimire</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNeilage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

**About the Award**

The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship

Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus

- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
**Program**

**Procession***
Students and stage party

**Welcome**
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

**Opening Remarks**
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

**Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association**
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

**Keynote Address**
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

**Presentation of Awards**
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

**Presentation of Students for Cloaking**
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

**Cloaking of Students**

**Recession***
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.**
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning
Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Virginia Sterling Hayley
  - Sean Edward Haskell
  - Margaret Lee Baldwin
  - Isabella Alonso Blair
  - Jamie Renee Davison
  - McKenzie Emma Foxall
  - Sarah Michelle Fuller
  - Hannah Margaret Goymer
  - Omar Hamid
  - Trinity Nicole Houston
  - William Christopher Illiano
  - Victoria Susan Jiminez
  - Samuel Johnson
  - Allen Joop
  - Tyler Lynd
  - Caleb Ryan McLachlan
  - Landon Joseph McNellage
  - Jared Luke Ridgeway
  - Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
  - Hemant Srivastava
  - Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Brooks Neil Bergman
  - Amiria Pearl Blakely
  - Jackson Lee Broadfoot
  - Carla Danielle Brown
  - Anupa Devi Ghimire
  - Grace Abigail Glidden
  - Thomas Stewart Gwin
  - Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
  - Brannan William Martens
  - Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
  - Cynthia Lauren Mims
  - Andrew Wilson Mitchell
  - Hailey Mody
  - Ashton Victoria Robinson
  - Benjamin Rush Rogers
  - Bethany May Sparks
  - Austin David Wall, III
  - Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff
UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
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LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

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Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
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Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

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C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
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Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
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Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
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William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
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Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

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John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*   Students and stage party

Welcome       Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
               Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks   Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD  
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker   Craig Hoesley, MD  
                                   Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
                                       Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*   Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Umar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
**Learning Communities**

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
- Ashley Caraleah Archer
- Lindsay Dale James
- Chloe Carroll
- Natalie Alexandra Dorin
- Denver Russel Fuller
- Spencer Gibbs
- Evan Garrison Gross
- Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
- Brittany Renee Isaac
- Emory Brennis Johnson
- Fizza Mahmoud
- Bipul Babu Mainali
- Jordan Henderson McGill
- Bryan Richard Mortimer
- Kimberly Laura Romanoff
- Veronica Michelle Smith
- Bradley Tyler Thigpen
- Lauren Nicole Usrey

### Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
- Peter G. Abdelmessih
- Priyanka Ahuja
- Caleb Bush
- Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
- Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
- Kaysie Angel Freer
- Amayrani Garcia
- Cortney Lauren Haymon
- Hudson Honeywell
- Madison Marie Jeziorski
- Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
- Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
- Cara Paige Parker
- Savannah Sally Petrus
- Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
- Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley  
Sean Edward Haskell  
Margaret Lee Baldwin  
Isabella Alonso Blair  
Jamie Renee Davison  
McKenzie Emma Foxall  
Sarah Michelle Fuller  
Hannah Margaret Goymer  
Omar Hamid  
Trinity Nicole Houston  
William Christopher Illiano  
Victoria Susan Jiminez  
Samuel Johnson  
Allen Joop  
Tyler Lynd  
Caleb Ryan McLachlan  
Landon Joseph McNellage  
Jared Luke Ridgeway  
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto  
Hemant Srivastava  
Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman  
Amiria Pearl Blakely  
Jackson Lee Broadfoot  
Carla Danielle Brown  
Anupa Devi Ghimire  
Grace Abigail Glidden  
Thomas Stewart Gwin  
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton  
Brannan William Martens  
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan  
Cynthia Lauren Mims  
Andrew Wilson Mitchell  
Hailey Mody  
Ashton Victoria Robinson  
Benjamin Rush Rogers  
Bethany May Sparks  
Austin David Wall, III  
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community  
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor  
   Benjamin Balcon Cage  
   Jessica Anne Graham  
   Kameron Anderson Hagerla  
   Samuel Benjamin Hayworth  
   Anna Bremer Inman  
   John Michael Woods Kaylor  
   Stefan Kovac  
   Gnyata Bhavik Patel  
   Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer  
   Tanvee Sinha  
   James Stallworth Jr.  
   David Marian Sylvester  
   Jordan Harrison Tzabari  
   Karen Yu Wang  

Lyons Learning Community  
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor  
   Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali  
   Zachary Chase Ballinger  
   Diarra Lashae Bender  
   Julie Jacqueline Cunningham  
   Divya Goel  
   Hannah Lee Green  
   Jacob William Greenway  
   Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez  
   Alyson Tudong Nguyen  
   Matthew Paul Oberkirch  
   Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar  
   James Franklin Roberson, II  
   Isaac Delain Robinson  
   Benjamin Tran  
   Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Ann Bell</td>
<td>Tommy Ralph McRae, III</td>
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<td>Meredith Leigh Burns</td>
<td>Alecia Alto</td>
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<td>Karen Joyce Carter</td>
<td>Charles Edward Baker</td>
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<td>Marissa Hope Dogan</td>
<td>Isha Chaudhary</td>
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<td>Riley Cain Taylor Duke</td>
<td>Edward Huang</td>
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<td>Zoe Nichole Fokakis</td>
<td>Javarus Humphries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elliott Dreyspring Herron</td>
<td>Amy Rajesh Jasani</td>
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<td>Benjamin Michael Honan</td>
<td>Kyle Robert Landers</td>
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<td>Luke Isaac Jones</td>
<td>Jimmy Logan Norris</td>
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<td>Bradford J. Minor</td>
<td>Srivatsan Ponnazhagan</td>
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<td>Alisa Alexandria Mobley</td>
<td>Mackenzie Quinn Porten</td>
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<td>Aneesh Pathak</td>
<td>Federico Ivan Prokopczuk</td>
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<td>Madeline Grace Ragland</td>
<td>Sunya Reddy</td>
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<td>Sarah Grace Trulove</td>
<td>Karthik Eyyani Sadanand</td>
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<td>Ian Timothy Tsekouras</td>
<td>Andrew Zack Saddekni</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie Louise Tucker</td>
<td>John Andrew Soldner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Daniel Waldeck</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Brooke White</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington

CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

● Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
● Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
● Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
● Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
● Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
● Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherrard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

   Angela Flaniken, Violin
   Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*

Welcome

Opening Remarks

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Keynote Address

Presentation of Awards

Presentation of Students for Cloaking

Cloaking of Students

Recession*

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
### CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopcuzk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDEWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapner Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantl G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

#### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Virginia Sterling Hayley
  - Sean Edward Haskell
  - Margaret Lee Baldwin
  - Isabella Alonso Blair
  - Jamie Renee Davison
  - McKenzie Emma Foxall
  - Sarah Michelle Fuller
  - Hannah Margaret Goymer
  - Omar Hamid
  - Trinity Nicole Houston
  - William Christopher Illiano
  - Victoria Susan Jiminez
  - Samuel Johnson
  - Allen Joop
  - Tyler Lynd
  - Caleb Ryan McLachlan
  - Landon Joseph McNellage
  - Jared Luke Ridgeway
  - Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
  - Hemant Srivastava
  - Anna Paige Wilson

#### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Brooks Neil Bergman
  - Amiria Pearl Blakely
  - Jackson Lee Broadfoot
  - Carla Danielle Brown
  - Anupa Devi Ghimire
  - Grace Abigail Glidden
  - Thomas Stewart Gwin
  - Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
  - Brannan William Martens
  - Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
  - Cynthia Lauren Mims
  - Andrew Wilson Mitchell
  - Hailey Mody
  - Ashton Victoria Robinson
  - Benjamin Rush Rogers
  - Bethany May Sparks
  - Austin David Wall, III
  - Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
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Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
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Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# Class Entering 2021

## By Learning Community

### Hill Learning Community

**Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor**

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

**Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor**

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her father served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
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Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
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Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
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Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
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Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
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Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greetings from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNeillage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Ann Bell</td>
<td>Tommy Ralph McRae, III</td>
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<td>Meredith Leigh Burns</td>
<td>Alecia Alto</td>
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<td>Karen Joyce Carter</td>
<td>Charles Edward Baker</td>
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<td>Marissa Hope Dogan</td>
<td>Isha Chaudhary</td>
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<td>Riley Cain Taylor Duke</td>
<td>Edward Huang</td>
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<td>Zoe Nichole Fokakis</td>
<td>Javarus Humphries</td>
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<td>Elliott Dreyspring Herron</td>
<td>Amy Rajesh Jasani</td>
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<td>Benjamin Michael Honan</td>
<td>Kyle Robert Landers</td>
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<td>Luke Isaac Jones</td>
<td>Jimmy Logan Norris</td>
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<td>Bradford J. Minor</td>
<td>Srivatsan Ponnazhagan</td>
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<td>Alisa Alexandria Mobley</td>
<td>Mackenzie Quinn Porten</td>
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<td>Aneesh Pathak</td>
<td>Federico Ivan Prokopczuk</td>
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<td>Madeline Grace Ragland</td>
<td>Sunya Reddy</td>
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<td>Sarah Grace Trulove</td>
<td>Karthik Eyyani Sadanand</td>
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<td>Ian Timothy Tsekouras</td>
<td>Andrew Zack Saddekni</td>
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<td>Marie Louise Tucker</td>
<td>John Andrew Soldner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Daniel Waldeck</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Brooke White</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She is a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
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Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
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Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
### Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
JamesStallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

   Amber Ann Bell
   Meredith Leigh Burns
   Karen Joyce Carter
   Marissa Hope Dogan
   Riley Cain Taylor Duke
   Zoe Nichole Fokakis
   Elliott Dreyspring Herron
   Benjamin Michael Honan
   Luke Isaac Jones
   Bradford J. Minor
   Alisa Alexandria Mobley
   Aneesh Pathak
   Madeline Grace Ragland
   Sarah Grace Trulove
   Ian Timothy Tsekouras
   Marie Louise Tucker
   Joshua Daniel Waldeck
   Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

   Tommy Ralph McRae, III
   Alecia Alto
   Charles Edward Baker
   Isha Chaudhary
   Edward Huang
   Javarus Humphries
   Amy Rajesh Jasani
   Kyle Robert Landers
   Jimmy Logan Norris
   Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
   Mackenzie Quinn Porten
   Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
   Sunya Reddy
   Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
   Andrew Zack Saddekni
   John Andrew Soldner
   Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klaipper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantl G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                    Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni'celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton Learning Community</th>
<th>Harrison Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
<td><strong>Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
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<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
<td>Peter G. Abdelmessih</td>
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<td>Lindsay Dale James</td>
<td>Priyanka Ahuja</td>
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<td>Chloe Carroll</td>
<td>Caleb Bush</td>
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<td>Natalie Alexandra Dorin</td>
<td>Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell</td>
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<td>Denver Russel Fuller</td>
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<td>Spencer Gibbs</td>
<td>Kaysie Angel Freer</td>
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<td>Evan Garrison Gross</td>
<td>Amayrani Garcia</td>
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<td>Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle</td>
<td>Cortney Lauren Haymon</td>
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<td>Brittany Renee Isaac</td>
<td>Hudson Honeywell</td>
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<td>Emory Brennis Johnson</td>
<td>Madison Marie Jeziorski</td>
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<td>Fizza Mahmood</td>
<td>Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV</td>
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<td>Bipul Babu Mainali</td>
<td>Javier Kenichi Nishikawa</td>
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<td>Cara Paige Parker</td>
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<td>Savannah Sally Petrus</td>
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<td>Elisabeth Christine Pettibone</td>
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<td>Veronica Michelle Smith</td>
<td>Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford</td>
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<td>Bradley Tyler Thigpen</td>
<td>Lauren Nicole Usrey</td>
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<td>Lauren Nicole Usrey</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor
  Amber Ann Bell
  Meredith Leigh Burns
  Karen Joyce Carter
  Marissa Hope Dogan
  Riley Cain Taylor Duke
  Zoe Nichole Fokakis
  Elliott Dreyspring Herron
  Benjamin Michael Honan
  Luke Isaac Jones
  Bradford J. Minor
  Alisa Alexandria Mobley
  Aneesh Pathak
  Madeline Grace Ragland
  Sarah Grace Trulove
  Ian Timothy Tsekouras
  Marie Louise Tucker
  Joshua Daniel Waldeck
  Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor
  Tommy Ralph McRae, III
  Alecia Alto
  Charles Edward Baker
  Isha Chaudhary
  Edward Huang
  Javarus Humphries
  Amy Rajesh Jasani
  Kyle Robert Landers
  Jimmy Logan Norris
  Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
  Mackenzie Quinn Porten
  Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
  Sunya Reddy
  Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
  Andrew Zack Saddekni
  John Andrew Soldner
  Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
**Welcome** to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

**Safety and Courtesy**

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

**The White Coat Ceremony**

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

**About the Procession and Cloaking**

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
        President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNeillage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Education Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
# Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker/Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Procession*</td>
<td>Students and stage party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Welcome                              | Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean                                |
| Opening Remarks                      | Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management                       |
| Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association | V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association                   |
| Introduction of Keynote Speaker      | Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education                                   |
| Keynote Address                      | Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine                        |
| Presentation of Awards               | Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS                                                  |
| Presentation of Students for Cloaking| Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students                                                   |
| Cloaking of Students                 |                                                                              |
| Recession*                           | Students and stage party                                                    |

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**  
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**  
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**  
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantil G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate it into knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award  
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship  
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship  
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship  
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships  
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship  
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the  
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus  
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)  
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment  
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine  
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment  
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship  
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship  
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship  
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship  
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship  
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust  
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship  
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship  
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund  
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship  
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine  
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* 
Students and stage party

Welcome
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association
V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her father served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                      President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                              Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                    Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunita A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffer Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13. Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                                President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                   Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
JamesStallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor
Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor
Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award

The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship

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John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petрус
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakisis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Anesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOVED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Elise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety andCourtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmoud
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Debi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, Ill
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology  
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffer Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapner Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
**Welcome** to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

**Safety and Courtesy**

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

**The White Coat Ceremony**

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

**About the Procession and Cloaking**

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*    Students and stage party

Welcome    Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
            Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks    Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
            Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association    V. Michael Bivins, MD
            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker    Craig Hoesley, MD
            Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address    Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
            2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards    Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking    Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
            Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*    Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-USmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
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<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
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<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
**BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE**

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

**About the Award**
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- **Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.**
- **Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.**
- **Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.**
- **Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.**
- **Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.**
- **Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.**

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship

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John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Robert Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
McKinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton Learning Community</th>
<th>Harrison Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
<td><strong>Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
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<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
<td>Peter G. Abdelmessih</td>
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<td>Lindsay Dale James</td>
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<td>Chloe Carroll</td>
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<td>Bipul Babu Mainali</td>
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<td>Class Entering 2021 By Learning Community</td>
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<td><strong>Hill Learning Community</strong></td>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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<td><strong>Hirschowitz Learning Community</strong></td>
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<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
  Benjamin Balcon Cage
  Jessica Anne Graham
  Kameron Anderson Hagerla
  Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  Anna Bremer Inman
  John Michael Woods Kaylor
  Stefan Kovac
  Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  Tanvee Sinha
  James Stallworth Jr.
  David Marian Sylvester
  Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
  Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  Zachary Chase Ballinger
  Diarra Lashae Bender
  Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  Divya Goel
  Hannah Lee Green
  Jacob William Greenway
  Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
  James Franklin Roberson, II
  Isaac Delain Robinson
  Benjamin Tran
  Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
## Class Entering 2021
### By Learning Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Amber Ann Bell</td>
<td>Tommy Ralph McRae, III</td>
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<td>Meredith Leigh Burns</td>
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<td>Elliott Dreyspring Herron</td>
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<td>Andrew Zack Saddekni</td>
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<td>Marie Louise Tucker</td>
<td>John Andrew Soldner</td>
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<td>Joshua Daniel Waldeck</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
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<td>Ashley Brooke White</td>
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Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in med- ical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educa- tor Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to re- search health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award  
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship  
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship  
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship  
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships  
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship  
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the  
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus  
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)  
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment  
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine  
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment  
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship  
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship  
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship  
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship  
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship  
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust  
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship  
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship  
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund  
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship  
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine  
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNeillage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
JamesStallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

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Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
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William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
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Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
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Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Känner Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
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Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
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Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
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W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
**Program**

**Procession***

Students and stage party

**Welcome**

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

**Opening Remarks**

Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

**Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association**

V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

**Keynote Address**

Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

**Presentation of Awards**

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

**Presentation of Students for Cloaking**

Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

**Cloaking of Students**

**Recession***

Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**

In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**

Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**

Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**

Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, "The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, "We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BS, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
<td><strong>Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
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<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
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<td>Lindsay Dale James</td>
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<td>Natalie Alexandra Dorin</td>
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<td>Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.</td>
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<td>Fizza Mahmood</td>
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<td>Class Entering 2021</td>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, Il
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinfrieb-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                 President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

- Amber Ann Bell
- Meredith Leigh Burns
- Karen Joyce Carter
- Marissa Hope Dogan
- Riley Cain Taylor Duke
- Zoe Nichole Fokakis
- Elliott Dreyspring Herron
- Benjamin Michael Honan
- Luke Isaac Jones
- Bradford J. Minor
- Alisa Alexandria Mobley
- Aneesh Pathak
- Madeline Grace Ragland
- Sarah Grace Trulove
- Ian Timothy Tsekouras
- Marie Louise Tucker
- Joshua Daniel Waldeck
- Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

- Tommy Ralph McRae, III
- Alecia Alto
- Charles Edward Baker
- Isha Chaudhary
- Edward Huang
- Javarus Humphries
- Amy Rajesh Jasani
- Kyle Robert Landers
- Jimmy Logan Norris
- Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
- Mackenzie Quinn Porten
- Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
- Sunya Reddy
- Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
- Andrew Zack Saddekni
- John Andrew Soldner
- Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalida Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award

The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOVED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*

Welcome

Opening Remarks

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Keynote Address

Presentation of Awards

Presentation of Students for Cloaking

Cloaking of Students

Recession*

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
JamesStallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapner Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
        Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
        Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
        President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
        Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
        2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
        Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**  
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**  
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**  
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**  
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Heman Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship  
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship  
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine  
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship  
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship  
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship  
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship  
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship  
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship  
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship  
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment  
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment  
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment  
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship  
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship  
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship  
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship  
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship  
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship  
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship  
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship  
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship  
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship  
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship  
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship  
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund  
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

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UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                           President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership
Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership
Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership
Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
## CLASS ENTERING 2021

### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

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<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
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<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Anesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
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Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
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Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington

CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to further their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvant G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*          Students and stage party

Welcome                Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                        Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks        Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                        Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
                        President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
                        Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                        2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                        Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*             Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorkski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation."

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDEOAWRED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                   2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr, M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
   Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
   Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
   President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
   Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
   2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
   Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award  
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

   Angela Flaniken, Violin
   Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
# CLASS ENTERING 2021  
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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</table>

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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center. She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvantl G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**  
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli  
Melissa Lyn Ebeling  
Rachel Marie Frazier  
Adam Jesse Hoesley  
Garrett James Jebeles  
Wenyun Jiang  
Haley Michelle Katz  
Erin Leigh LaGrone  
Alexander Hutchinson Lee  
Ian David Miranda  
Hamad Malik Muhammad  
Scott Nguyen  
Lauren Victoria Odom  
James Walker Phillips  
Henry Hamilton Smith T  
Ataya Ni’celle Spears  
Madyson Grace Taylor  
Halle Hope Thannickal  
Michael Yi Ming Wang  
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**  
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga  
Cody Michael Anger  
Devin Ray Dobbins  
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes  
Taylor Nicole Golden  
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux  
Sheena Khan  
Jenna Lee McLaughlin  
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson  
Andrew Boyd Price  
William Hunter Scott  
Anna Katherine Tankersley  
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
MARTHA MYERS ROLE MODEL AWARD

Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
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Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
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Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
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Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Tallington and Scott R. Tallington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
  Angela Flaniken, Violin
  Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome       Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
              Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks         Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                        Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association       V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                                        President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker               Craig Hoesley, MD
                                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address                     Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                                          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking       Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                         Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschwitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medicinal school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship

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John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles. Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*                Students and stage party

Welcome                   Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks           Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                          Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                          Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address           Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards    Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                          Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*                Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

**About the Award**

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Ann Bell</td>
<td>Tommy Ralph McRae, III</td>
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<td>Meredith Leigh Burns</td>
<td>Alecia Alto</td>
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<td>Karen Joyce Carter</td>
<td>Charles Edward Baker</td>
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<td>Marissa Hope Dogan</td>
<td>Isha Chaudhary</td>
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<td>Riley Cain Taylor Duke</td>
<td>Edward Huang</td>
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<td>Zoe Nichole Fokakis</td>
<td>Javarus Humphries</td>
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<td>Elliott Dreyspring Herron</td>
<td>Amy Rajesh Jasani</td>
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<td>Benjamin Michael Honan</td>
<td>Kyle Robert Landers</td>
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<td>Luke Isaac Jones</td>
<td>Jimmy Logan Norris</td>
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<td>Bradford J. Minor</td>
<td>Srivatsan Ponnazhagan</td>
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<td>Alisa Alexandria Mobley</td>
<td>Mackenzie Quinn Porten</td>
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<td>Aneesh Pathak</td>
<td>Federico Ivan Prokopczuk</td>
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<td>Madeline Grace Ragland</td>
<td>Sunya Reddy</td>
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<td>Sarah Grace Trulove</td>
<td>Karthik Eyyani Sadanand</td>
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<td>Ian Timothy Tsekouras</td>
<td>Andrew Zack Saddekni</td>
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<td>Marie Louise Tucker</td>
<td>John Andrew Soldner</td>
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<td>Joshua Daniel Waldeck</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Brooke White</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional
Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
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<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center. She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action. Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts. She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles. Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                           President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 

## CLASS ENTERING 2021
**BY LEARNING COMMUNITY**

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birming-ham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to re-search health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff
UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-USmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

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Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
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Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

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David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from — and the professionalism he has observed in — Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
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Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
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Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
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Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
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Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
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Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund

**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship**
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                           President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNeillage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in med- ical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educa- tor Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to re- search health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

• Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
• Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
• Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
• Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
• Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
• Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
**Welcome** to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

**Safety and Courtesy**

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

**The White Coat Ceremony**

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

**About the Procession and Cloaking**

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                              Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

**Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean**

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

**Senior Associate Deans**

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean  
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences  
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research  
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion  
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive  
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research  
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer  
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance  
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

**Associate Deans**

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health  
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program  
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management  
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office  
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration  
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education  
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)  
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health  
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

**Assistant Deans**

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration  
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education  
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development  
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding  
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship  
Todd Peterson, MD, Students  
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health  
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation  
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education  
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion  
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekovras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvant G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli  
Melissa Lyn Ebeling  
Rachel Marie Frazier  
Adam Jesse Hoesley  
Garrett James Jebeles  
Wenyun Jiang  
Haley Michelle Katz  
Erin Leigh LaGrone  
Alexander Hutchinson Lee  
Ian David Miranda  
Hamad Malik Muhammad  
Scott Nguyen  
Lauren Victoria Odom  
James Walker Phillips  
Henry Hamilton Smith T  
Ataya Ni’celle Spears  
Madyson Grace Taylor  
Halle Hope Thannickal  
Michael Yi Ming Wang  
Mckinley Rae Williams  

Yolanda Amezaga  
Cody Michael Anger  
Devin Ray Dobbins  
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes  
Taylor Nicole Golden  
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux  
Sheena Khan  
Jenna Lee McLaughlin  
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson  
Andrew Boyd Price  
William Hunter Scott  
Anna Katherine Tankersley  
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods  Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmoud
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

  Benjamin Balcon Cage
  Jessica Anne Graham
  Kameron Anderson Hagerla
  Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  Anna Bremer Inman
  John Michael Woods Kaylor
  Stefan Kovac
  Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  Tanvee Sinha
  James Stallworth Jr.
  David Marian Sylvester
  Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

  Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  Zachary Chase Ballinger
  Diarra Lashae Bender
  Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  Divya Goel
  Hannah Lee Green
  Jacob William Greenway
  Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
  James Franklin Roberson, II
  Isaac Delain Robinson
  Benjamin Tran
  Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriett P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

   Angela Flaniken, Violin
   Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahtti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**

Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**

Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**

In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**

Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
- **Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor**
  - Virginia Sterling Hayley
  - Sean Edward Haskell
  - Margaret Lee Baldwin
  - Isabella Alonso Blair
  - Jamie Renee Davison
  - McKenzie Emma Foxall
  - Sarah Michelle Fuller
  - Hannah Margaret Goymer
  - Omar Hamid
  - Trinity Nicole Houston
  - William Christopher Illiano
  - Victoria Susan Jiminez
  - Samuel Johnson
  - Allen Joop
  - Tyler Lynd
  - Caleb Ryan McLachlan
  - Landon Joseph McNellage
  - Jared Luke Ridgeway
  - Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
  - Hemant Srivastava
  - Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- **Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor**
  - Brooks Neil Bergman
  - Amiria Pearl Blakely
  - Jackson Lee Broadfoot
  - Carla Danielle Brown
  - Anupa Devi Ghimire
  - Grace Abigail Glidden
  - Thomas Stewart Gwin
  - Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
  - Brannan William Martens
  - Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
  - Cynthia Lauren Mims
  - Andrew Wilson Mitchell
  - Hailey Mody
  - Ashton Victoria Robinson
  - Benjamin Rush Rogers
  - Bethany May Sparks
  - Austin David Wall, III
  - Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead
Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>James Walker Phillips</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

- Amber Ann Bell
- Meredith Leigh Burns
- Karen Joyce Carter
- Marissa Hope Dogan
- Riley Cain Taylor Duke
- Zoe Nichole Fokakis
- Elliott Dreyspring Herron
- Benjamin Michael Honan
- Luke Isaac Jones
- Bradford J. Minor
- Alisa Alexandria Mobley
- Aneesh Pathak
- Madeline Grace Ragland
- Sarah Grace Trulove
- Ian Timothy Tsekouras
- Marie Louise Tucker
- Joshua Daniel Waldeck
- Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

- Tommy Ralph McRae, III
- Alecia Alto
- Charles Edward Baker
- Isha Chaudhary
- Edward Huang
- Javarus Humphries
- Amy Rajesh Jasani
- Kyle Robert Landers
- Jimmy Logan Norris
- Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
- Mackenzie Quinn Porten
- Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
- Sunya Reddy
- Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
- Andrew Zack Saddekni
- John Andrew Soldner
- Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson  
Shaina Danielle Bolden  
Ann Carol Braswell  
Parker Tulaire Cobbs  
Matthew Everett Dean  
Clayton Farris  
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca  
Cole Davis Garrison  
Jessica Morgan Jenkins  
William Paul Kretzschmar  
Elizabeth Carter Marks  
Nicholas Tate McCarthy  
Charlotte Rainier McRae  
Khalidia Khalil Osman  
Reid Harrison Reeves  
Lauren Nicole Sullivan  
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center. She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action. Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts. She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology. Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappe Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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10
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
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Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
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Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

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Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
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John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
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Jessica Morgan Jenkins
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Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

**About the Award**

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunita A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
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Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
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Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
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Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
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Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
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Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
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Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

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Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

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Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

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Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
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Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome      Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
             Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                 President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

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Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
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Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

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Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action. Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
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Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O'Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean's Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean's Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean's Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                    Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greetings from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                                   President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                   Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                   2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                        Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
          Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
          Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
          Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornst, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington

CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship

Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus

- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- MaiBen Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans
Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans
Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community
- Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community
- Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
  Benjamin Balcon Cage
  Jessica Anne Graham
  Kameron Anderson Hagerla
  Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  Anna Bremer Inman
  John Michael Woods Kaylor
  Stefan Kovac
  Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  Tanvee Sinha
  James Stallworth Jr.
  David Marian Sylvester
  Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
  Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  Zachary Chase Ballinger
  Diarra Lashae Bender
  Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  Divya Goel
  Hannah Lee Green
  Jacob William Greenway
  Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  Durga Luckshmy Prabahkar
  James Franklin Roberson, II
  Isaac Delain Robinson
  Benjamin Tran
  Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Aecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB's Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She's spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer is an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
   Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
   Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
   Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
   Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
   Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
   C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
   Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
   Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
   David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
   James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
   Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
   Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
   Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
   William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
   George Netto, MD, Pathology
   Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
   Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
   Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
   Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
   James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
   Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
   Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
   Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76. After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham. Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard DeVore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” DeVore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambliss Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award  
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship  
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship  
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship  
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships  
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship  
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus  
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)  
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment  
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine  
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
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Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship  
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McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship  
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine  
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-USmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

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Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
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Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

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Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her father served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education
UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services
UAB School of Medicine Records Office
UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society
UAB School of Medicine Honor Council
UAB School of Medicine Student Senate
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* 

Welcome 
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS 
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks 
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD 
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association 
V. Michael Bivins, MD 
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker 
Craig Hoesley, MD 
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address 
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD 
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards 
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking 
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD 
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* 

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahtti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
### CLASS ENTERING 2021
#### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

- Ashley Caraleah Archer
- Lindsay Dale James
- Chloe Carroll
- Natalie Alexandra Dorin
- Denver Russel Fuller
- Spencer Gibbs
- Evan Garrison Gross
- Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
- Brittany Renee Isaac
- Emory Brennis Johnson
- Fizza Mahmood
- Bipul Babu Mainali
- Jordan Henderson McGill
- Bryan Richard Mortimer
- Kimberly Laura Romanoff
- Veronica Michelle Smith
- Bradley Tyler Thigpen
- Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

- Peter G. Abdelmessih
- Priyanka Ahuja
- Caleb Bush
- Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
- Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
- Kaysie Angel Freer
- Amayrani Garcia
- Cortney Lauren Haymon
- Hudson Honeywell
- Madison Marie Jeziorski
- Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
- Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
- Cara Paige Parker
- Savannah Sally Petrus
- Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
- Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor
Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor
Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

  Angela Flaniken, Violin
  Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor
Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni'celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor
Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
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Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center. She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
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Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
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UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
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Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:
  Angela Flaniken, Violin
  Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                   Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                   President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                   2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                     Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
**Birmingham Department Leadership**

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

**Huntsville Department Leadership**

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

**Tuscaloosa Department Leadership**

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY 

Kirklin Learning Community  
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor  
Benjamin Balcon Cage  
Jessica Anne Graham  
Kameron Anderson Hagerla  
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth  
Anna Bremer Inman  
John Michael Woods Kaylor  
Stefan Kovac  
Gnyata Bhavik Patel  
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer  
Tanvee Sinha  
James Stallworth Jr.  
David Marian Sylvester  
Jordan Harrison Tzabari  
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community  
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor  
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali  
Zachary Chase Ballinger  
Diarra Lashae Bender  
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham  
Divya Goel  
Hannah Lee Green  
Jacob William Greenway  
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez  
Alyson Tudong Nguyen  
Matthew Paul Oberkirch  
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar  
James Franklin Roberson, II  
Isaac Delain Robinson  
Benjamin Tran  
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76. After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB. Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders. Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement. Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine. Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Entering 2021</th>
<th>By Learning Community</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Barfield Carter Learning Community</strong></td>
<td><strong>Finley Learning Community</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Leigh Estes</td>
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<td>Garrett James Jebeles</td>
<td>Taylor Nicole Golden</td>
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<td>Wenyun Jiang</td>
<td>Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux</td>
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<td>Haley Michelle Katz</td>
<td>Sheena Khan</td>
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<td>Erin Leigh LaGrone</td>
<td>Jenna Lee McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Alexander Hutchinson Lee</td>
<td>Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson</td>
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<td>Ian David Miranda</td>
<td>Andrew Boyd Price</td>
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<td>Hamad Malik Muhammad</td>
<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Nguyen</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lauren Victoria Odom</td>
<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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<td>James Walker Phillips</td>
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<td>Ataya Ni’celle Spears</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*

Welcome
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association
V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahtti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community  
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli  
Melissa Lyn Ebeling  
Rachel Marie Frazier  
Adam Jesse Hoesley  
Garrett James Jebeles  
Wenyun Jiang  
Haley Michelle Katz  
Erin Leigh LaGrone  
Alexander Hutchinson Lee  
Ian David Miranda  
Hamad Malik Muhammad  
Scott Nguyen  
Lauren Victoria Odom  
James Walker Phillips  
Henry Hamilton Smith T  
Ataya Ni'celle Spears  
Madyson Grace Taylor  
Halle Hope Thannickal  
Michael Yi Ming Wang  
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community  
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga  
Cody Michael Anger  
Devin Ray Dobbins  
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes  
Taylor Nicole Golden  
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux  
Sheena Khan  
Jenna Lee McLaughlin  
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson  
Andrew Boyd Price  
William Hunter Scott  
Anna Katherine Tankersley  
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Dietelhelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornst, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB's Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She's spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient's right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
          Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
          Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
          Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell  
Meredith Leigh Burns  
Karen Joyce Carter  
Marissa Hope Dogan  
Riley Cain Taylor Duke  
Zoe Nichole Fokakis  
Elliott Dreyspring Herron  
Benjamin Michael Honan  
Luke Isaac Jones  
Bradford J. Minor  
Alisa Alexandria Mobley  
Aneesh Pathak  
Madeline Grace Ragland  
Sarah Grace Trulove  
Ian Timothy Tsekouras  
Marie Louise Tucker  
Joshua Daniel Waldeck  
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III  
Alecia Alto  
Charles Edward Baker  
Isha Chaudhary  
Edward Huang  
Javarus Humphries  
Amy Rajesh Jasani  
Kyle Robert Landers  
Jimmy Logan Norris  
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan  
Mackenzie Quinn Porten  
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk  
Sunya Reddy  
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand  
Andrew Zack Saddekni  
John Andrew Soldner  
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

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University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*                      Students and stage party

Welcome                      Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                             Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks             Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                             Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association
                             V. Michael Bivins, MD
                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
                             Craig Hoesley, MD
                             Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address
                             Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                             2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards      Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking
                             Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                             Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*                       Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
### Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

### Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021  
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer  
Lindsay Dale James  
Chloe Carroll  
Natalie Alexandra Dorin  
Denver Russel Fuller  
Spencer Gibbs  
Evan Garrison Gross  
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle  
Brittany Renee Isaac  
Emory Brennis Johnson  
Fizza Mahmood  
Bipul Babu Mainali  
Jordan Henderson McGill  
Bryan Richard Mortimer  
Kimberly Laura Romanoff  
Veronica Michelle Smith  
Bradley Tyler Thigpen  
Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih  
Priyanka Ahuja  
Caleb Bush  
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell  
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.  
Kaysie Angel Freer  
Amayrani Garcia  
Cortney Lauren Haymon  
Hudson Honeywell  
Madison Marie Jeziorski  
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV  
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa  
Cara Paige Parker  
Savannah Sally Petrus  
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone  
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell  
Meredith Leigh Burns  
Karen Joyce Carter  
Marissa Hope Dogan  
Riley Cain Taylor Duke  
Zoe Nichole Fokakis  
Elliott Dreyspring Herron  
Benjamin Michael Honan  
Luke Isaac Jones  
Bradford J. Minor  
Alisa Alexandria Mobley  
Aneesh Pathak  
Madeline Grace Ragland  
Sarah Grace Trulove  
Ian Timothy Tsekouras  
Marie Louise Tucker  
Joshua Daniel Waldeck  
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III  
Alecia Alto  
Charles Edward Baker  
Isha Chaudhary  
Edward Huang  
Javarus Humphries  
Amy Rajesh Jasani  
Kyle Robert Landers  
Jimmy Logan Norris  
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan  
Mackenzie Quinn Porten  
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk  
Sunya Reddy  
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand  
Andrew Zack Saddekni  
John Andrew Soldner  
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington

CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship

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John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
### Barfield Carter Learning Community

Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

### Finley Learning Community

Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Entering 2021</th>
<th>By Learning Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hill Learning Community</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hirschowitz Learning Community</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<tr>
<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Christopher Illiano</td>
<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                             President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                   Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund

**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                   President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                   Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                   2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                        Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli  
Melissa Lyn Ebeling  
Rachel Marie Frazier  
Adam Jesse Hoesley  
Garrett James Jebeles  
Wenyun Jiang  
Haley Michelle Katz  
Erin Leigh LaGrone  
Alexander Hutchinson Lee  
Ian David Miranda  
Hamad Malik Muhammad  
Scott Nguyen  
Lauren Victoria Odom  
James Walker Phillips  
Henry Hamilton Smith T  
Ataya Ni’celle Spears  
Madyson Grace Taylor  
Halle Hope Thannickal  
Michael Yi Ming Wang  
Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga  
Cody Michael Anger  
Devin Ray Dobbins  
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes  
Taylor Nicole Golden  
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux  
Sheena Khan  
Jenna Lee McLaughlin  
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson  
Andrew Boyd Price  
William Hunter Scott  
Anna Katherine Tankersley  
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford

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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB's Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She's spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Commitment to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
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Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
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Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
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Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

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UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony. Please do not stand in or block the aisles. Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead
Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning
Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead
Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson 
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
MaiBen Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship

20
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                           President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Madyson Grace Taylor</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

  Benjamin Balcon Cage
  Jessica Anne Graham
  Cameron Anderson Hagerla
  Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  Anna Bremer Inman
  John Michael Woods Kaylor
  Stefan Kovac
  Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  Tanvee Sinha
  James Stallworth Jr.
  David Marian Sylvester
  Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

  Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  Zachary Chase Ballinger
  Diarra Lashae Bender
  Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  Divya Goel
  Hannah Lee Green
  Jacob William Greenway
  Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
  James Franklin Roberson, II
  Isaac Delain Robinson
  Benjamin Tran
  Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCallum Learning Community</th>
<th>Oparil Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Ann Bell</td>
<td>Tommy Ralph McRae, III</td>
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<td>Meredith Leigh Burns</td>
<td>Alecia Alto</td>
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<td>Karen Joyce Carter</td>
<td>Charles Edward Baker</td>
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<td>Marissa Hope Dogan</td>
<td>Isha Chaudhary</td>
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<td>Riley Cain Taylor Duke</td>
<td>Edward Huang</td>
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<td>Zoe Nichole Fokakis</td>
<td>Javarus Humphries</td>
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<td>Elliott Dreyspring Herron</td>
<td>Amy Rajesh Jasani</td>
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<td>Benjamin Michael Honan</td>
<td>Kyle Robert Landers</td>
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<td>Luke Isaac Jones</td>
<td>Jimmy Logan Norris</td>
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<td>Bradford J. Minor</td>
<td>Srivatsan Ponnazhagan</td>
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<td>Alisa Alexandria Mobley</td>
<td>Mackenzie Quinn Porten</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aneesh Pathak</td>
<td>Federico Ivan Prokopczuk</td>
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<td>Madeline Grace Ragland</td>
<td>Sunya Reddy</td>
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<td>Sarah Grace Trulove</td>
<td>Karthik Eyyani Sadanand</td>
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<td>Ian Timothy Tsekouras</td>
<td>Andrew Zack Saddeki</td>
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<td>Marie Louise Tucker</td>
<td>John Andrew Soldner</td>
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<td>Joshua Daniel Waldeck</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Brooke White</td>
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</tbody>
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Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOVED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenaught, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership
Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership
Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership
Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>William Hunter Scott</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
<td>Anna Katherine Tankersley</td>
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<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award  
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship  
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship  
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship  
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships  
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship  
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus  
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)  
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment  
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine  
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment  
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship  
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship  
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship  
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship  
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship  
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust  
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship  
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship  
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund  
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship  
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine  
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                               President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmoud
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor  
Virginia Sterling Hayley  
Sean Edward Haskell  
Margaret Lee Baldwin  
Isabella Alonso Blair  
Jamie Renee Davison  
McKenzie Emma Foxall  
Sarah Michelle Fuller  
Hannah Margaret Goymer  
Omar Hamid  
Trinity Nicole Houston  
William Christopher Illiano  
Victoria Susan Jiminez  
Samuel Johnson  
Allen Joop  
Tyler Lynd  
Caleb Ryan McLachlan  
Landon Joseph McNellage  
Jared Luke Ridgeway  
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto  
Hemant Srivastava  
Anna Paige Wilson

### Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor  
Brooks Neil Bergman  
Amiria Pearl Blakely  
Jackson Lee Broadfoot  
Carla Danielle Brown  
Anupa Devi Ghimire  
Grace Abigail Glidden  
Thomas Stewart Gwin  
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton  
Brannan William Martens  
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan  
Cynthia Lauren Mims  
Andrew Wilson Mitchell  
Hailey Mody  
Ashton Victoria Robinson  
Benjamin Rush Rogers  
Bethany May Sparks  
Austin David Wall, III  
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOwed AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                               President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

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Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
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Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

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Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
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Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
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Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
**Birmingham Department Leadership**

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David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

**Huntsville Department Leadership**

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

**Tuscaloosa Department Leadership**

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Barfield Carter Learning Community</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
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<td>Lillie Grace Veazey</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
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<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alicia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-Of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                              President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
## Hill Learning Community

Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

- Virginia Sterling Hayley
- Sean Edward Haskell
- Margaret Lee Baldwin
- Isabella Alonso Blair
- Jamie Renee Davison
- McKenzie Emma Foxall
- Sarah Michelle Fuller
- Hannah Margaret Goymer
- Omar Hamid
- Trinity Nicole Houston
- William Christopher Illiano
- Victoria Susan Jiminez
- Samuel Johnson
- Allen Joop
- Tyler Lynd
- Caleb Ryan McLachlan
- Landon Joseph McNellage
- Jared Luke Ridgeway
- Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
- Hemant Srivastava
- Anna Paige Wilson

## Hirschowitz Learning Community

Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

- Brooks Neil Bergman
- Amiria Pearl Blakely
- Jackson Lee Broadfoot
- Carla Danielle Brown
- Anupa Devi Ghimire
- Grace Abigail Glidden
- Thomas Stewart Gwin
- Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
- Brannan William Martens
- Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
- Cynthia Lauren Mims
- Andrew Wilson Mitchell
- Hailey Mody
- Ashton Victoria Robinson
- Benjamin Rush Rogers
- Bethany May Sparks
- Austin David Wall, III
- Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**McCallum Learning Community**
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

- Amber Ann Bell
- Meredith Leigh Burns
- Karen Joyce Carter
- Marissa Hope Dogan
- Riley Cain Taylor Duke
- Zoe Nichole Fokakis
- Elliott Dreyspring Herron
- Benjamin Michael Honan
- Luke Isaac Jones
- Bradford J. Minor
- Alisa Alexandria Mobley
- Aneesh Pathak
- Madeline Grace Ragland
- Sarah Grace Trulove
- Ian Timothy Tsekouras
- Marie Louise Tucker
- Joshua Daniel Waldeck
- Ashley Brooke White

**Oparil Learning Community**
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

- Tommy Ralph McRae, III
- Alecia Alto
- Charles Edward Baker
- Isha Chaudhary
- Edward Huang
- Javarus Humphries
- Amy Rajesh Jasani
- Kyle Robert Landers
- Jimmy Logan Norris
- Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
- Mackenzie Quinn Porten
- Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
- Sunya Reddy
- Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
- Andrew Zack Saddekni
- John Andrew Soldner
- Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB's Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She's spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer is an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*                      Students and stage party

Welcome                        Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                                Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks                 Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                                Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association
                                V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
                                Craig Hoesley, MD
                                Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address                 Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                                2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards          Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking
                                Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*                      Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
## CLASS ENTERING 2021  
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton Learning Community</th>
<th>Harrison Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marissa Natelson Love, MD,</td>
<td>Shaundra Blakemore, MD,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Lead Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
<td>Peter G. Abdelmessih</td>
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<td>Lindsay Dale James</td>
<td>Priyanka Ahuja</td>
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<td>Chloe Carroll</td>
<td>Caleb Bush</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natalie Alexandra Dorin</td>
<td>Laura Catherine Wright</td>
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<td>Denver Russel Fuller</td>
<td>Cresswell</td>
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<td>Spencer Gibbs</td>
<td>Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.</td>
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<td>Evan Garrison Gross</td>
<td>Kaysie Angel Freer</td>
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<td>Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle</td>
<td>Amayrani Garcia</td>
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<td>Brittany Renee Isaac</td>
<td>Cortney Lauren Haymon</td>
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<td>Emory Brennis Johnson</td>
<td>Hudson Honeywell</td>
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<td>Fizza Mahmood</td>
<td>Madison Marie Jeziorski</td>
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<td>Bipul Babu Mainali</td>
<td>Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV</td>
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<td>Jordan Henderson McGill</td>
<td>Javier Kenichi Nishikawa</td>
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<td>Bryan Richard Mortimer</td>
<td>Cara Paige Parker</td>
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<td>Kimberly Laura Romanoff</td>
<td>Savannah Sally Petrus</td>
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<td>Veronica Michelle Smith</td>
<td>Elisabeth Christine</td>
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<td>Bradley Tyler Thigpen</td>
<td>Pettibone</td>
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<td>Lauren Nicole Usrey</td>
<td>Eleanor Elizabeth</td>
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<td>Pitchford</td>
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<td>Hill Learning Community</td>
<td>Hirschowitz Learning Community</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
<td><strong>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>McKenzie Emma Foxall</td>
<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
<td>Thomas Stewart Gwin</td>
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<td>Hannah Margaret Goymer</td>
<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Omar Hamid</td>
<td>Brannan William Martens</td>
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<td>Trinity Nicole Houston</td>
<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Kirklin Learning Community
- Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Benjamin Balcon Cage
  - Jessica Anne Graham
  - Kameron Anderson Hagerla
  - Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  - Anna Bremer Inman
  - John Michael Woods Kaylor
  - Stefan Kovac
  - Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  - Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  - Tanvee Sinha
  - James Stallworth Jr.
  - David Marian Sylvester
  - Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  - Karen Yu Wang

### Lyons Learning Community
- Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
  - Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  - Zachary Chase Ballinger
  - Diarra Lashae Bender
  - Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  - Divya Goel
  - Hannah Lee Green
  - Jacob William Greenway
  - Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  - Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  - Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  - Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
  - James Franklin Roberson, II
  - Isaac Delain Robinson
  - Benjamin Tran
  - Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor
Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*                     Students and stage party

Welcome                          Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
                                 Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks                  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association       V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                 President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                 Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address                  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                                 2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards           Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking    Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                 Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*                      Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine.*
Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hamilton Learning Community**

Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

**Harrison Learning Community**

Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
<th>Hirschowitz Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>Grace Abigail Glidden</td>
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<td>Sarah Michelle Fuller</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
  Benjamin Balcon Cage
  Jessica Anne Graham
  Kameron Anderson Hagerla
  Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  Anna Bremer Inman
  John Michael Woods Kaylor
  Stefan Kovac
  Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  Tanvee Sinha
  James Stallworth Jr.
  David Marian Sylvester
  Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
  Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  Zachary Chase Ballinger
  Diarra Lashae Bender
  Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  Divya Goel
  Hannah Lee Green
  Jacob William Greenway
  Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
  James Franklin Roberson, II
  Isaac Delain Robinson
  Benjamin Tran
  Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from — and the professionalism he has observed in — Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional
Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapfer Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
          Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
          Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
          Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
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Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

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Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

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David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
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Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
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Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
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James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Barfield Carter Learning Community**
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

- Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
- Melissa Lyn Ebeling
- Rachel Marie Frazier
- Adam Jesse Hoesley
- Garrett James Jebeles
- Wenyun Jiang
- Haley Michelle Katz
- Erin Leigh LaGrone
- Alexander Hutchinson Lee
- Ian David Miranda
- Hamad Malik Muhammad
- Scott Nguyen
- Lauren Victoria Odom
- James Walker Phillips
- Henry Hamilton Smith T
- Ataya Ni’celle Spears
- Madyson Grace Taylor
- Halle Hope Thannickal
- Michael Yi Ming Wang
- Mckinley Rae Williams

**Finley Learning Community**
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

- Yolanda Amezaga
- Cody Michael Anger
- Devin Ray Dobbins
- Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
- Taylor Nicole Golden
- Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
- Sheena Khan
- Jenna Lee McLaughlin
- Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
- Andrew Boyd Price
- William Hunter Scott
- Anna Katherine Tankersley
- Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alicia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

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Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
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Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
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Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
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UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
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Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
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Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
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H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
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Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

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University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
  Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
  Allen Joop
  Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
  Hemant Srivastava
  Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
  Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
  Carla Danielle Brown
  Anupa Devi Ghimire
  Grace Abigail Glidden
  Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
  Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
  Cynthia Lauren Mims
  Andrew Wilson Mitchell
  Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
  Benjamin Rush Rogers
  Bethany May Sparks
  Austin David Wall, III
  Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakies
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaunda Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award  
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship  
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship  
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship  
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships  
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship  
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship  
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the  
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus  
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)  
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment  
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine  
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship  
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment  
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship  
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship  
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship  
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship  
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship  
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the  
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus  
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust  
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine  
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship  
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship  
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship  
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund  
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship  
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship  
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship  
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine  
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeoffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
                 Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
                                            President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
                                Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
                2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
                                      Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton Learning Community</th>
<th>Harrison Learning Community</th>
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<td>Marissa Natelson Love, MD,</td>
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<td>Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
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<td>Lindsay Dale James</td>
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<td>Chloe Carroll</td>
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<td>Natalie Alexandra Dorin</td>
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<td>Denver Russel Fuller</td>
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<td>Spencer Gibbs</td>
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<td>Evan Garrison Gross</td>
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<td>Brittany Renee Isaac</td>
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<td>Fizza Mahmoud</td>
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<td>Bipul Babu Mainali</td>
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<td>Jordan Henderson McGill</td>
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<td>Kimberly Laura Romanoff</td>
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<td>Bradley Tyler Thigpen</td>
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<td>Lauren Nicole Usrey</td>
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<td>Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead</td>
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<td>Mentor</td>
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<td>Peter G. Abdelmessih</td>
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<td>Priyanka Ahuja</td>
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<td>Caleb Bush</td>
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<td>Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell</td>
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<td>Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.</td>
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<td>Kaysie Angel Freer</td>
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<td>Amayrani Garcia</td>
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<td>Cortney Lauren Haymon</td>
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<td>Madison Marie Jeziorski</td>
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<td>Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV</td>
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<td>Javier Kenichi Nishikawa</td>
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<td>Cara Paige Parker</td>
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<td>Savannah Sally Petrus</td>
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<td>Elisabeth Christine Pettibone</td>
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<td>Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

**Hill Learning Community**
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

**Hirschowitz Learning Community**
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety andCourtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where she was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
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Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
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Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  
Students and stage party

Welcome  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS  
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD  
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  
V. Michael Bivins, MD  
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  
Craig Hoesley, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD  
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD  
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

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Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
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Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

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Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

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David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
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Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton Learning Community</th>
<th>Harrison Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
<td>Peter G. Abdelmessih</td>
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<td>Lindsay Dale James</td>
<td>Priyanka Ahuja</td>
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<td>Chloe Carroll</td>
<td>Caleb Bush</td>
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<td>Natalie Alexandra Dorin</td>
<td>Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell</td>
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<td>Denver Russel Fuller</td>
<td>Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.</td>
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<td>Spencer Gibbs</td>
<td>Kaysie Angel Freer</td>
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<td>Evan Garrison Gross</td>
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<td>Fizza Mahmood</td>
<td>Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV</td>
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<td>Bipul Babu Mainali</td>
<td>Javier Kenichi Nishikawa</td>
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<td>Jordan Henderson McGill</td>
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<td>Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford</td>
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<td>Bradley Tyler Thigpen</td>
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<td>Lauren Nicole Usrey</td>
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## CLASS ENTERING 2021
### BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

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<th>Hill Learning Community</th>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
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<td>Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Victoria Susan Jiminez</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Allen Joop</td>
<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Tyler Lynd</td>
<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Caleb Ryan McLachlan</td>
<td>Bethany May Sparks</td>
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<td>Landon Joseph McNellage</td>
<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Jared Luke Ridgeway</td>
<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto</td>
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<td>Hemant Srivastava</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was codirector of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She is a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party

Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
          Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
          Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
          Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly re-named learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor
Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor
Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khaldia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

- Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
- Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
- Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
- Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
- Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
- Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
- Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
- William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
- Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Richard "Zeke" Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
- John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
- The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
- Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
- William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
- The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
- W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
- Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
- Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
- Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
- Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
- Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakash Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klappler Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunavant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin

Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*  Students and stage party
Welcome  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
          Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean
Opening Remarks  Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
          Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management
Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association  V. Michael Bivins, MD
          President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association
Introduction of Keynote Speaker  Craig Hoesley, MD
          Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education
Keynote Address  Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
          2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine
Presentation of Awards  Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Presentation of Students for Cloaking  Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
          Associate Dean for Students
Cloaking of Students

Recession*  Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson "Dick" Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton Learning Community</th>
<th>Harrison Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
<td>Peter G. Abdelmessih</td>
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<td>Lindsay Dale James</td>
<td>Priyanka Ahuja</td>
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<td>Chloe Carroll</td>
<td>Caleb Bush</td>
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<td>Natalie Alexandra Dorin</td>
<td>Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell</td>
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<td>Denver Russel Fuller</td>
<td>Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.</td>
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<td>Spencer Gibbs</td>
<td>Kaysie Angel Freer</td>
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<td>Evan Garrison Gross</td>
<td>Amayrani Garcia</td>
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<td>Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle</td>
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<td>Brittany Renee Isaac</td>
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<td>Emory Brennis Johnson</td>
<td>Madison Marie Jeziorski</td>
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<td>Fizza Mahmood</td>
<td>Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV</td>
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<td>Bipul Babu Mainali</td>
<td>Javier Kenichi Nishikawa</td>
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<td>Jordan Henderson McGill</td>
<td>Cara Paige Parker</td>
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<td>Bryan Richard Mortimer</td>
<td>Savannah Sally Petrus</td>
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<td>Kimberly Laura Romanoff</td>
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<td>Veronica Michelle Smith</td>
<td>Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford</td>
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<td>Bradley Tyler Thigpen</td>
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<td>Lauren Nicole Usrey</td>
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<td>Hill Learning Community</td>
<td>Hirschowitz Learning Community</td>
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<td>Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Virginia Sterling Hayley</td>
<td>Brooks Neil Bergman</td>
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<td>Sean Edward Haskell</td>
<td>Amiria Pearl Blakely</td>
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<td>Margaret Lee Baldwin</td>
<td>Jackson Lee Broadfoot</td>
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<td>Isabella Alonso Blair</td>
<td>Carla Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>Jamie Renee Davison</td>
<td>Anupa Devi Ghimire</td>
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<td>Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton</td>
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<td>Cynthia Lauren Mims</td>
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<td>Andrew Wilson Mitchell</td>
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<td>Hailey Mody</td>
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<td>Ashton Victoria Robinson</td>
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<td>Benjamin Rush Rogers</td>
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<td>Austin David Wall, III</td>
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<td>Hannah Woodard</td>
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<td>Anna Paige Wilson</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor
  Benjamin Balcon Cage
  Jessica Anne Graham
  Kameron Anderson Hagerla
  Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
  Anna Bremer Inman
  John Michael Woods Kaylor
  Stefan Kovac
  Gnyata Bhavik Patel
  Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
  Tanvee Sinha
  James Stallworth Jr.
  David Marian Sylvester
  Jordan Harrison Tzabari
  Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor
  Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
  Zachary Chase Ballinger
  Diarra Lashae Bender
  Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
  Divya Goel
  Hannah Lee Green
  Jacob William Greenway
  Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
  Alyson Tudong Nguyen
  Matthew Paul Oberkirch
  Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
  James Franklin Roberson, II
  Isaac Delain Robinson
  Benjamin Tran
  Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
**Welcome** to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

**Safety and Courtesy**

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

**The White Coat Ceremony**

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

**About the Procession and Cloaking**

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession*     Students and stage party

Welcome     Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks     Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association     V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker     Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address     Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards     Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking     Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession*     Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornstil, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
# CLASS ENTERING 2021
## BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barfield Carter Learning Community</th>
<th>Finley Learning Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
<td>Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor</td>
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<td>Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli</td>
<td>Yolanda Amezaga</td>
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<td>Melissa Lyn Ebeling</td>
<td>Cody Michael Anger</td>
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<td>Rachel Marie Frazier</td>
<td>Devin Ray Dobbins</td>
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<td>Adam Jesse Hoesley</td>
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<td>Halle Hope Thannickal</td>
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<td>Michael Yi Ming Wang</td>
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<td>Mckinley Rae Williams</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She’s a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world’s experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
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Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
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Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
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Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
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Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Brown Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is the an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13.

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* Students and stage party

Welcome Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
  Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
  Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association V. Michael Bivins, MD
  President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Craig Hoesley, MD
  Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
  2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alicia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine  
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics  
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering  
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology  
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology  
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine  
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine  
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics  
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education  
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine  
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology  
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology  
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology  
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery  
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim)  
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology  
George Netto, MD, Pathology  
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics  
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)  
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology  
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology  
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology  
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery  
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine  
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine  
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics  
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry  
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine  
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine  
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology  
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics  
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry  
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

Barfield-Carter Community
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Finley Community
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Hamilton Community
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

Harrison Community
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

Hill Community
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Hirschowitz Community
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

Kirklin Community
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Lyons Community
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**McCallum Community**
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Oparil Community**
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Pittman Community**
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. *UAB Magazine*. 
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton Learning Community</th>
<th>Harrison Learning Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
<td><strong>Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Caraleah Archer</td>
<td>Peter G. Abdelmessih</td>
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<td>Lindsay Dale James</td>
<td>Priyanka Ahuja</td>
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<td>Chloe Carroll</td>
<td>Caleb Bush</td>
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<td>Natalie Alexandra Dorin</td>
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<td>Denver Russel Fuller</td>
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<td>Emory Brennis Johnson</td>
<td>Madison Marie Jeziorski</td>
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<td>Fizza Mahmood</td>
<td>Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV</td>
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<td>Bipul Babu Mainali</td>
<td>Javier Kenichi Nishikawa</td>
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<td>Jordan Henderson McGill</td>
<td>Cara Paige Parker</td>
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<td>Bryan Richard Mortimer</td>
<td>Savannah Sally Petrus</td>
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<td>Elisabeth Christine Pettibone</td>
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<td>Veronica Michelle Smith</td>
<td>Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford</td>
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<td>Bradley Tyler Thigpen</td>
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<td>Lauren Nicole Usrey</td>
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CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor

Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor

Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Pittman Learning Community
Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
SARA CREWS FINLEY, MD, ENDOWED LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Desalyn Johnson
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medical school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educator Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to research health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award
Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOVED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She’s spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate at knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
The School of Medicine at UAB is grateful for the generous support of individuals and organizations providing the following medical student scholarships, loans and travel funds.

Drs. Seydi V. and Gonul Aksut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation Endowed Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Alfa Rural Medical Scholars Program Endowed Scholarship Loan
Richard Arrington, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Norma Marx Bailey Scholarship
Robert S. and Winnie B. Baird Memorial Scholarship
Baptist Health Care Foundation Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
E.B. Baugh Sr., and Helen Sullivan Baugh Scholarship
Jimmy Beard Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship
V. Michael Bivins, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Blue Cross Scholars Program in the School of Medicine at UAB
Gerhard and Linda Boehm Endowed Medical Scholarship
Susan Ferguson Bradley Endowed Scholarship
Doris R. and Peyton R. Bryars, Jr., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Paul W. Burleson, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Paul W. and Martha R. Burleson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Bush and Posey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Maiben Cammack Memorial Scholarship
William Groce Campbell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Capital City Medical Society Endowed Scholarship
Richard Devore Carter, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Richard “Zeke” Devore Carter, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Leisa Chambless Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Murphy Chenault, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Fred and Bessie Mae Chestnut Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ann Margaret Clark Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Orville W. Clayton and Dr. Richard O. Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
The Comer Foundation Medical Scholarship
Dr. Harold Niles Cooley, Jr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Frances Bell Corman, M.D., and Mannie Corman Medical Scholarship
Crittenden-Larson Endowed Medical Scholarship
William A. Cunningham Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Jordan and Gale Davis Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
William B. Deal, M.D., Huntsville Art of Medicine Endowed Scholarship
Richard and Gloria deShazo Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship
The Arnold G. Diethelm, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Claude E. Dorsey, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
W. Earle Drennen Endowed Scholarship
Harriet P. Dustan Scholarship
Jane R. Cantey-Edwards Family Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Helen and Murphy Evans Endowed Medical Scholarship
Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Leadership Scholars Program Endowment
Wayne Finley, M.D., Travel Award
Pink L. and Miriam R. Folmar Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ramakrishna K. Gadi, M.D., Endowed Medical Travel Award
Manmohan K. Ghanta, M.D., and Sunitha A. Ghanta, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Gary Michael Gross M.D. Endowed Medical Scholarship
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
George S. Hand Jr., Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Estes H. and Florence Parker Hargis Memorial Scholarship
T. Michael Harrington, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Tinsley Harrison Medical Scholarship
S. Richardson Hill Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Hire Family Endowed Medical Scholarships
Henry Harland Hoffman Endowed Medical Scholarship
John Isaac Samuel Holt Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Huntsville Campus Alumni Scholarship
Huntsville Hospital Internal Medicine Integrated Residency Scholarship for the
UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
Charles E. Ingalls, M.D., Medical Scholarship for the UAB Montgomery Regional Medical
Campus
UAB International Medical Education Scholarship for
the Medical Student Enrichment Program (Study Abroad)
Anne Juliane Jenkins Isola, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Lewis F. Jeffers Scholarship Endowment
Love Family Scholarship in Medicine
Jefferson County Medical Society Alliance Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Jefferson County Medical Society Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Eloise and Charles P. Johnston Scholarship Endowment
Henry P. Johnston, Jr. 1st Lt. USAF Endowed Scholarship
Louise and Henry P. Johnston, Sr., Scholarship
Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Medical School Scholarship
Drs. Santosh and Prakesh Kansal Endowed Medical Scholarship
Stephen J. Kelly, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund
Melinda Kerr and Barry Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Hayne Kendrick Medical Scholarship
Samuel Rexford Kennamer, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship for the
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus
Dr. Charles O. King Scholarship Trust
Clarence E. and Margaret S. Klapper Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Stephen G. Lauten, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Clarence Long Memorial Medical Scholarship
Alma B. Maxwell Medical Scholarship
Jane Knight Lowe Medical Scholarship
Dr. Rob McDonald Memorial Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Richard B. and Priscilla P. McElvein Endowed Scholarship
Dr. C. C. McLean Medical Scholarship Fund
McLester Endowed Medical Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Birmingham Surgical Society Endowed Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association/Dean of Medicine Scholarship
Medical Alumni Association Diversity in Medicine Scholarship
Medical Society of Montgomery County Endowed Medical Scholarship
Mineral District Medical Society and Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship
R.A. Moorer and C.C. Belcher Endowed Loan Fund in Primary Care Medicine
Moon H. Nahm, M.D., Chong K. Nahm, and Laura S. Nahm, Endowed Scholarship

20
John P. Newsome, M.D., Scholarship
Edgar A. O’Rear, Jr., M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
H. Parker and Mabel Osment Scholarship
Dr. Doris Sturgis Phillips Scholarship in Medicine
The Physicians of Tomorrow Endowed Medical Scholarship
Primary Care Medical Student Scholarship
Dr. Seaborn W. Purifoy and Daisy Brown Purifoy Memorial Scholarship
Thomas E. Rast Endowed Medical Scholarship
Robert R. Rich, M.D., Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Mary D. Roberts Endowed Medical Scholarship
James Earl Robertson Endowed Medical Scholarship
Benjamin and Roberta Russell Endowed Medical Scholarship
Brenda Gayle Russell Memorial Scholarship
William F. Salter Endowed Medical Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Out-of-State Scholarship
School of Medicine Dean’s Primary Care Scholarship
School of Medicine Diversity Scholarship
School of Medicine Minority Medical Scholarship
Dr. Gunvant N. Shah, Mrs. Gunvanti G. Shah, and Dr. Parul Shah Nguyen Endowed Medical Scholarship
Ronald A. Shaw, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Shelton Endowed Medical Scholarship
Frank R. Sherard Scholarship Endowment
Robert G. Sherrill, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. Marcus Skinner Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Dr. Charles Smith and Mrs. Mildred Broun Smith Endowment
James D. Sokol and Lydia C. Cheney Endowed Medical Scholarship
Florence F. Staples Medical Scholarship
Steelcase Alabama Endowed Scholarship
Eleanor Parks Stephens and Mary Williams Parks Endowed Scholarship
Bruce Henry Swords, M.D., Ph.D., Family Scholarship
Lynn Talkington and Scott R. Talkington Primary Care Medical Scholarship
Albert J. Tully, Jr., M.D., Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Dr. W. H. and Sara Elizabeth Turner Medical Trust Scholarship
W. Hudson Turner, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
UAB Montgomery Regional Medical Campus Scholarship
UAB National Alumni Society Dean’s Scholarship
Edgar Smith Underwood, M.D., Endowed Medical Scholarship
University of Alabama Health Services Foundation Scholarship
University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association Endowed Medical Scholarship
Betty W. Vaughan, M.D., Medical Scholarship
Walker Drug Company Endowed Medical Student Scholarship
Chaniece White Wallace, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ray L. Watts Family Endowed Scholarship in Medicine
Robert Lee White Medical Scholarship
Frank Whitfield, Jr., and Virginia R. Whitfield Medical Scholarship
Weinrib-Herzfeld Family Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilkerson-Lacey Endowed Medical Scholarship
Wilson Primary Care Medical Loan Fund
**Dr. Evan Zeiger, Jr., Endowed Medical Scholarship
Our thanks to the following for their help and assistance during commencement:

BJCC Staff

UAB School of Medicine Department of Medical Education

UAB School of Medicine Medical Student Services

UAB School of Medicine Records Office

UAB School of Medicine Gold Humanism Honor Society

UAB School of Medicine Honor Council

UAB School of Medicine Student Senate

University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Special thanks to members of the string ensemble from the Samford University School of Fine Arts:

Angela Flaniken, Violin
Jeffrey Flaniken, Viola
UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
WHITE COAT CEREMONY
Welcome to the 2021 White Coat Ceremony of the UAB School of Medicine. Today’s ceremony is an important milestone in the process of study, preparation, and achievement of our students. We hope you find the ceremony both meaningful and memorable, as it reflects the combined efforts of the faculty, staff, alumni, and of course, our students and their families.

Safety and Courtesy

Please silence all cell phones, pagers and other devices prior to the start of the ceremony.

Please do not stand in or block the aisles.

Please note that flash photography is not allowed in the arena. A professional photographer will photograph each student shaking the dean’s hand. Students will receive information about ordering photographs.

The White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was designed by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to formally welcome new students into the medical profession and to set clear expectations regarding their primary role as physicians by professing an oath. Today, the ceremony emphasizes the importance of compassionate care as well as scientific proficiency.

Currently, a White Coat Ceremony or a similar rite of passage takes place at 97 percent of AAMC-accredited schools of medicine in the United States and Canada, as well as at osteopathic schools of medicine and at schools in 13 other countries. At the ceremony, students are welcomed by their deans, the president of the hospital or other respected leaders who represent the value system of the school and the profession.

The cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. It is personally placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

This event is made possible by support from the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.

About the Procession and Cloaking

The students will process in and be cloaked by Learning Community. Learning communities are small groups students to which are assigned upon entering medical school. Each You can learn more about the physicians for which the learning communities are named on pages 6-7. A list of students by learning communities can be found on pages 8-13

Students are cloaked by deans from the three regional campuses, or their designee.
Program

Procession* 
Students and stage party

Welcome 
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS
Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Opening Remarks 
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management

Greeting from the Medical Alumni Association 
V. Michael Bivins, MD
President, University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association

Introduction of Keynote Speaker 
Craig Hoesley, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Keynote Address 
Hussein Abdul-latif, MD
2020 Faculty Recipient Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presentation of Awards 
Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Presentation of Students for Cloaking 
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Students

Cloaking of Students

Recession* 
Students and stage party

*If you are able, please stand.

**Students will be cloaked by their learning community. A list of students by learning community can be found on pages 8-13 of this program.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP

Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Deans

Anupam Agarwal, MD, Executive Vice Dean
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD, Senior Vice Dean, Basic Sciences
Victor M. Darley-Usmar, PhD, Research
Mona Fouad, MD, MPH, Diversity & Inclusion
Craig Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
Keith (Tony) Jones, MD, Clinical Affairs and Chief Physician Executive
Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Clinical & Translational Research
Jean Ann Larson, PhD, Leadership Development; Chief Leadership Development Officer
LaKisha Mack, MBA, Administration & Finance
David Rogers, MD, MHPE, Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Chief Wellness Officer

Associate Deans

Irfan M. Asif, MD, Primary Care and Rural Health
Richard Friend, MD, Tuscaloosa Program
Alice Goepfert, MD, Graduate Medical Education
Christina J. Grabowski, PhD, Admissions and Enrollment Management
Bruce Korf, MD, PhD Genomic Medicine and Chief Genomic Office
Toni Leeth, MPH, Strategic Planning and Administration
Kevin Leon, MD, Undergraduate Medical Education
W.J. Many, MD, Montgomery Program (Interim)
Michael Saag, MD, Global Health
Roger D. Smalligan, MD, Huntsville Program
Nicholas Van Wagoner, MD, PhD, Students

Assistant Deans

Alex Boles, Finance & Administration
Cristin Gavin, PhD, Undergraduate Biomedical Education
William M. Geisler, MD, MPH, Physician Scientist Development
Alecia K. Gross, PhD, Faculty Onboarding
Caroline Harada, MD, Community Engaged Scholarship
Todd Peterson, MD, Students
Rubin Pillay, MD, PhD, Global Health
Marjorie Lee White, MD, Clinical Simulation
James H. Willig, MD, MSPH, Clinical Education
Carlton Young, MD, Medical Student Diversity & Inclusion
Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, International Medical Education
Birmingham Department Leadership

Dan E. Berkowitz, MB BCh, Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David M. Bedwell, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics
Jianyi (Jay) Zhang, MD, PhD, Biomedical Engineering
Bradley Yoder, PhD, Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
Boni E. Elewski, MD, Dermatology
Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, Emergency Medicine
Irfan M. Asif, MD, Family Medicine
Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Genetics
Craig J. Hoesley, MD, Medical Education
C. Seth Landefeld, MD, Medicine
Frances Lund, PhD, Microbiology
Craig Powell, MD, PhD, Neurobiology
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD, Neurology
James M. Markert, MD, MPH, Neurosurgery
Warner K. Huh, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chris Girkin, MD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
Steven Theiss, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery (Interim),
William R. Carroll, MD, Otolaryngology
George Netto, MD, Pathology
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD, Pediatrics
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, Pharmacology & Toxicology
Danielle Powell, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (Interim)
Adrienne Lahti, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology
James A. Bonner, MD, Radiation Oncology
Cheri L. Canon, MD, Radiology
Herb Chen, MD, Surgery
Dean G. Assimos, MD, Urology

Huntsville Department Leadership

Marcia Chesbro, MD, Family Medicine
John Fanning, MD, Internal Medicine
Steffane Battle, MD, Pediatrics
Clinton Martin, MD, Psychiatry
Rony Najjar, MD, Surgery

Tuscaloosa Department Leadership

Jennifer Clem, MD, Family Medicine
Grier Stewart, MD, Internal Medicine
Katherine Ikard, MD, Neurology
John McDonald, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Heather Taylor, MD, Pediatrics
Il Gy Cho, MD, MD, Psychiatry
Joseph Wallace, MD, Surgery
Learning Communities

**Barfield-Carter Community**
In 1945, Melson Barfield-Carter, M.D., became the first female faculty member at the School of Medicine and the first woman to be named a department chair (of the Department of Radiology). She also was the first woman to graduate from Tulane Medical School, and she completed her residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Barfield-Carter started the radiology residency training program and developed the School of Radiological Technology at UAB.

Students in the Barfield-Carter Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Finley Community**
Wayne Finley, M.D., Ph.D., and Sara Crews Finley, M.D., became pioneers in the field of medical genetics when they co-founded the Laboratory of Medical Genetics, the first center of its kind in the Southeast, in 1962. The Finleys guided the medical genetics research, training, and service program at UAB for 35 years, providing genetics services and developing specialized diagnostic laboratories for detectable genetic disorders.

Students in the Finley Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Hamilton Community**
Herschell Lee Hamilton, M.D., came to Birmingham in 1958 as its first African-American board-certified general surgeon. He was the first African-American to receive operating privileges at University Hospital. Hamilton earned his nicknames as the “Dog Bite Doctor” and the “Battle Surgeon” for his work helping injured activists during the civil rights movement.

Students in the Hamilton Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.

**Harrison Community**
Tinsley Harrison, M.D., served as dean of the School of Medicine and chairman of the Department of Medicine. He helped recruit nationally known physicians from Harvard University and the Mayo Clinic, among others. His special field of interest was cardiovascular medicine as well as the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease. Harrison is best known among physicians as the founding editor and editor-in-chief of the first five editions of Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine.

Students in the Harrison Community, are assigned to the Huntsville campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

**Hill Community**
Longtime School of Medicine faculty member Samuel Richardson “Dick” Hill Jr., M.D., served as president of UAB from 1977 to 1986. Hill practiced internal medicine and endocrinology before coming to the Medical College of Alabama in 1954. He was appointed dean of the college in 1962 and remained there as it evolved into UAB, serving as vice president for health affairs and medical center director and director of the University of Alabama Medical Education Program. Hill recruited John Kirklin from the Mayo Clinic to chair the surgery department and Gene Bartow from UCLA to coach the university’s first basketball team.

Students in the Hill Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Hirschowitz Community**
Basil Hirschowitz, M.D., Ph.D., is a medical pioneer who, along with his colleagues, invented the first fiberoptic endoscope that became the standard for visualizing and treating virtually every cavity in the body. Hirschowitz dedicated his career to the study of diseases of the upper GI tract and published more than 350 papers, many related to ulcer disease. He was also a leader in clinical trials that were the forerunners to new pharmaceutical treatments in gastroenterology, paving the way for widespread use of medications known today as Pepcid, Prilosec, and Nexium.

Students in the Hirschowitz Community, are assigned to the Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.

**Kirklin Community**
In the 1950s, while at the Mayo Clinic, John Kirklin, M.D., performed the world’s first series of open heart operations using a heart-lung machine. Kirklin joined the UAB faculty in 1966 as chair of the Department of Surgery and the surgeon-in-chief for UAB Hospital. He held those positions until 1982 during which time he built one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgical programs in the world.

Students in the Kirklin Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

**Lyons Community**
Champ Lyons, M.D., arrived in Birmingham in 1950 to become the first full-time chair of surgery, a position he retained until his passing in 1965. That year, Lyons became one of the first faculty members to be named a distinguished professor. His major professional contributions were in the areas of surgical infections and vascular surgery.

Students in the Lyons Community, are assigned to the Montgomery campus for clinical training.
Learning Communities

McCallum Community
Charles “Scotty” McCallum Jr., DMD, M.D., came to Alabama in 1951 to complete a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery after earning his dental degree from Tufts College Dental School. He earned a medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama in 1957 and became dean of the School of Dentistry in 1962. He later served as vice president for health affairs and director of UAB Medical Center before becoming the third president of UAB in 1987. After stepping down as president, he was elected to two terms as mayor of Vestavia Hills beginning in 2000.

Students in the McCallum Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Oparil Community
Suzanne Oparil, M.D., is a renowned cardiologist and a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments for hypertension, including ACE inhibitors. She has also made important discoveries about mediators of pulmonary hypertension and the role of estrogen in blood vessels. She is a distinguished professor of medicine and director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program at UAB.

Students in the Oparil Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Pittman Community
As the UAB School of Medicine’s longest-serving dean—19 years, from 1973 to 1992—James Pittman Jr., M.D., left an indelible mark. He was known for his ability to recruit and retain nationally and internationally renowned physicians and scientists. He is credited with restoring a four-year medical school curriculum, replacing the 35-month program that was in place when he became dean, and creating space in the academic cycle for students to pursue research and service activities.

Students in the Pittman Community, are assigned to the Birmingham campus for clinical training.

Content taken from Howard, K. A Legacy of Leadership: Newly renamed learning communities honor Key figures from our past and present. UAB Magazine.
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Barfield Carter Learning Community
Desiree Morgan, MD, Lead Mentor

Rishi Kashyap Devulapalli
Melissa Lyn Ebeling
Rachel Marie Frazier
Adam Jesse Hoesley
Garrett James Jebeles
Wenyun Jiang
Haley Michelle Katz
Erin Leigh LaGrone
Alexander Hutchinson Lee
Ian David Miranda
Hamad Malik Muhammad
Scott Nguyen
Lauren Victoria Odom
James Walker Phillips
Henry Hamilton Smith T
Ataya Ni’celle Spears
Madyson Grace Taylor
Halle Hope Thannickal
Michael Yi Ming Wang
Mckinley Rae Williams

Finley Learning Community
Pilar Acosta Lara, MD, Lead Mentor

Yolanda Amezaga
Cody Michael Anger
Devin Ray Dobbins
Kaitlyn Leigh Estes
Taylor Nicole Golden
Kayla Tai Hazelwood Charniaux
Sheena Khan
Jenna Lee McLaughlin
Abygayle Elizabeth Nelson
Andrew Boyd Price
William Hunter Scott
Anna Katherine Tankersley
Lillie Grace Veazey
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hamilton Learning Community
Marissa Natelson Love, MD, Lead Mentor

Ashley Caraleah Archer
Lindsay Dale James
Chloe Carroll
Natalie Alexandra Dorin
Denver Russel Fuller
Spencer Gibbs
Evan Garrison Gross
Kelsey Adele Hornbuckle
Brittany Renee Isaac
Emory Brennis Johnson
Fizza Mahmood
Bipul Babu Mainali
Jordan Henderson McGill
Bryan Richard Mortimer
Kimberly Laura Romanoff
Veronica Michelle Smith
Bradley Tyler Thigpen
Lauren Nicole Usrey

Harrison Learning Community
Shaundra Blakemore, MD, Lead Mentor

Peter G. Abdelmessih
Priyanka Ahuja
Caleb Bush
Laura Catherine Wright Cresswell
Jack Marlow Foster, Jr.
Kaysie Angel Freer
Amayrani Garcia
Cortney Lauren Haymon
Hudson Honeywell
Madison Marie Jeziorski
Hunter Hobson Johnson, IV
Javier Kenichi Nishikawa
Cara Paige Parker
Savannah Sally Petrus
Elisabeth Christine Pettibone
Eleanor Elizabeth Pitchford
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Hill Learning Community
Danielle Powell, MD, Lead Mentor
Virginia Sterling Hayley
Sean Edward Haskell
Margaret Lee Baldwin
Isabella Alonso Blair
Jamie Renee Davison
McKenzie Emma Foxall
Sarah Michelle Fuller
Hannah Margaret Goymer
Omar Hamid
Trinity Nicole Houston
William Christopher Illiano
Victoria Susan Jiminez
Samuel Johnson
Allen Joop
Tyler Lynd
Caleb Ryan McLachlan
Landon Joseph McNellage
Jared Luke Ridgeway
Salomon Alejandro Roman Soto
Hemant Srivastava
Anna Paige Wilson

Hirschowitz Learning Community
Stephanie Berger, MD, Lead Mentor
Brooks Neil Bergman
Amiria Pearl Blakely
Jackson Lee Broadfoot
Carla Danielle Brown
Anupa Devi Ghimire
Grace Abigail Glidden
Thomas Stewart Gwin
Irene Nancy Akoth Hufton
Brannan William Martens
Shelby Lyn Kaup McClellan
Cynthia Lauren Mims
Andrew Wilson Mitchell
Hailey Mody
Ashton Victoria Robinson
Benjamin Rush Rogers
Bethany May Sparks
Austin David Wall, III
Hannah Woodard
Kirklin Learning Community
Jessica Fazendin, MD, Lead Mentor

Benjamin Balcon Cage
Jessica Anne Graham
Kameron Anderson Hagerla
Samuel Benjamin Hayworth
Anna Bremer Inman
John Michael Woods Kaylor
Stefan Kovac
Gnyata Bhavik Patel
Kelsey Elizabeth Schoenmeyer
Tanvee Sinha
James Stallworth Jr.
David Marian Sylvester
Jordan Harrison Tzabari
Karen Yu Wang

Lyons Learning Community
Sherell Hicks, MD, Lead Mentor

Sameen Yasar-Bin Ali
Zachary Chase Ballinger
Diarra Lashae Bender
Julie Jacqueline Cunningham
Divya Goel
Hannah Lee Green
Jacob William Greenway
Javier Alejandro Jurado Velez
Alyson Tudong Nguyen
Matthew Paul Oberkirch
Durga Luckshmy Prabhakar
James Franklin Roberson, II
Isaac Delain Robinson
Benjamin Tran
Bijal Girishkumar Vashi
CLASS ENTERING 2021
BY LEARNING COMMUNITY

McCallum Learning Community
Todd McCarty, MD, Lead Mentor

Amber Ann Bell
Meredith Leigh Burns
Karen Joyce Carter
Marissa Hope Dogan
Riley Cain Taylor Duke
Zoe Nichole Fokakis
Elliott Dreyspring Herron
Benjamin Michael Honan
Luke Isaac Jones
Bradford J. Minor
Alisa Alexandria Mobley
Aneesh Pathak
Madeline Grace Ragland
Sarah Grace Trulove
Ian Timothy Tsekouras
Marie Louise Tucker
Joshua Daniel Waldeck
Ashley Brooke White

Oparil Learning Community
Pallavi Iyer, MD, Lead Mentor

Tommy Ralph McRae, III
Alecia Alto
Charles Edward Baker
Isha Chaudhary
Edward Huang
Javarus Humphries
Amy Rajesh Jasani
Kyle Robert Landers
Jimmy Logan Norris
Srivatsan Ponnazhagan
Mackenzie Quinn Porten
Federico Ivan Prokopczuk
Sunya Reddy
Karthik Eyyani Sadanand
Andrew Zack Saddekni
John Andrew Soldner
Dakota Williams
Pittman Learning Community

Starr Steinhilber, MD, Lead Mentor

Luke Samuel Anderson
Shaina Danielle Bolden
Ann Carol Braswell
Parker Tulaire Cobbs
Matthew Everett Dean
Clayton Farris
Gabriela Santos da Fonseca
Cole Davis Garrison
Jessica Morgan Jenkins
William Paul Kretzschmar
Elizabeth Carter Marks
Nicholas Tate McCarthy
Charlotte Rainier McRae
Khalidia Khalil Osman
Reid Harrison Reeves
Lauren Nicole Sullivan
Shahn Washington
Pink L. Folmar, Jr., M.D., MACP
2021 Martha Myers Role Model Award Recipient

Pink L. Folmar, Jr. MD, MACP, was raised in Montgomery, Alabama and received his B.A. degree in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University in 1967 with plans to go into medicine. His experiences around a kind and well-respected Birmingham doctor at a young age led him to his interest in a medical career. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine in 1972. After his internal medicine residency at UAB, he served as Chief Resident in 1975-76.

After completing his residency in 1976, Dr. Folmar joined Simon Williamson Clinic at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, where he would practice primary care internal medicine for 29 years. Due to his interest in rural health disparities in 2005, he moved from Simon Williamson to begin a solo practice in Pike County, specifically Brundidge, Alabama, a town of 2500, which had not had a physician for several years. The challenge of such a practice in that community was daunting but rewarding. After five years at his Brundidge practice another internist took over to continue it, allowing Dr. Folmar to return to Birmingham.

Upon his return to Birmingham in 2010, he practiced urgent care and again developed a primary care practice with MedHelp, P.C. After retirement in early 2016 from direct patient care, he has continued to do clinical trial supervision for Phase 3 studies, including the COVID-19 Moderna and Janssen trials.

His passion for leadership and organized medicine has been demonstrated by his involvement with Simon Williamson Clinic, the Jefferson County Medical Society Board, the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, the Alabama Chapter of the American Chapter of Physicians, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, where he served on the board for 10 years from 1991 to 2001 and as President from 1999-2000; and the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association, where he has served in multiple capacities since 2010 culminating in his time as President from 2015-2017. He is currently actively involved in leading the Underrepresented in Medicine Scholarship Committee with colleague, Dr. Richard D. deShazo.

The greatest satisfactions in his career in medicine have been: first, to care for patients long-term to teach them healthy lifestyle habits and to follow disease states to determine if effective care can alter progression of disease; second, to teach medical students and residents while at Baptist Princeton; and third, to mentor younger physicians to become involved with organized medicine and assume leadership roles.

Dr. Folmar has been married to his wife, Mim, for 52 years and together they have three children and six grandchildren, expecting a 7th grandchild in mid-August. They enjoy time together with their family and friends as well as their work on Mim’s family property in Pike County, Alabama where they manage a 600 acre longleaf pine plantation. In retirement, Dr. Folmar has found forestry as a second profession.

He was nominated for this award by Dr. Richard deShazo, who stated in his nomination letter, “The characteristic behaviors Pink has always demonstrated are a high level of clinical competence with care delivered in a patient-centric, warm, and caring manner, just the way Martha did when I knew her. He is a born teacher, both to his patients and trainees; he respects and values all he meets with great humility and has always been willing to sacrifice his best interests for those of his patients.”

To summarize his life’s work and philosophy, Dr. Folmar shared, “We all should be looking daily for opportunities for purpose, to make the world a better place and to serve others. Looking back, this is what I have tried to do, whether it is maintaining a marriage and raising children, caring for patients and educating them about their medical conditions, teaching the science and bedside manner to residents and medical students, participating on committees and boards to better their purpose, or seeking out and encouraging younger people to participate in organized medicine so that they might make a difference in their generation.”

About the Award
The Martha Myers Role Model Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Alumni Association to honor the life and service of Dr. Martha Myers, who was killed while serving on a medical mission in Yemen. The awards are intended to inspire generations of medical students by highlighting the accomplishments of physician alumni whose lives epitomize the ideal of service to their communities.
Desalyn Johnson  
2021 Recipient of the Sara Crews Finley, M.D., Endowed Leadership Scholarship

Desalyn grew up in Huntsville where was surrounded by family members whose examples inspired her to pursue a career of service. Her fathered served his country in the military. Her mother served her students in the classroom. Her sister served her patients in the COVID ward. Amid their sacrifices, Desalyn has seen the determination and compassion with which they graciously served.

Desalyn attended the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. During her time at UAH, she founded the Honors Diversity Initiative to promote cultural awareness and increase inclusion within the campus.

She continues to be passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in medi- cal school. She is a part of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Mentor Program, the Underrepresented in Medicine Initiative, Patient Educa- tor Program at M-Power, and the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Stud- ents Mentor Program. She is proficient in Spanish and serves as a Spanish translator at Equal Access Birmingham.

Following in Dr. Sara Finley’s footsteps, Desalyn hopes to further support her community through her passion for health equity. She was recently awarded an NIH National Research Service Award via the Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Trainee Program. This program will allow 12 months of dedicated time to re- search health disparities and she will earn a Master of Science in Public Health.

About the Award

Sara Crews Finley made an indelible mark as a pioneer in medicine at UAB. With her husband, Wayne H. Finley, MD, PhD, Class of 1960, she co-founded the first medical genetics program in the Southeast, and was co-director of the Laboratory of Medical Genetics at UAB for more than 30 years.

A native of Lineville, Alabama, she graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and the Medical College of Alabama (now the School of Medicine at UAB). Postgraduate training included an internship at Lloyd Noland Hospital, a three-year pediatric research fellowship at the Medical College of Alabama, and a traineeship at the Institute for Medical Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1960, she joined the School of Medicine faculty where she and Dr. Wayne Finley guided the medical genetics research, training and service program for 35 years. Dr. Finley served on the admissions committee for 20 years, and was the first female president of the University of Alabama Medical Alumni Association and the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. Finley left a powerful and enduring legacy. Not only was she a visionary leader in her field, she was also a wise, kind and generous mentor to countless students who aspired to succeed in and outside of the medical profession. She possessed a rare combination of political acumen, business savvy, scientific knowledge, and the desire to help others achieve their potential. Her family has established a generous scholarship in her name to support students who demonstrate those qualities. The recipient receives a full-tuition scholarship and a new white coat with special insignia.
BREWER-HESLIN ENDOWED AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM IN MEDICINE

Sharon A. Spencer, MD, Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology
2021 recipient of the Brewer-Heslin Endowed Award for Professionalism in Medicine

Dr. Spencer holds the Sharon A. Spencer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Translational Radiation Oncology. She's a professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Chief of Medical Services in Radiation Oncology for UAB Hospital and a Senior Scientist in the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also holds appointments in UAB's Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences and Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center.

She is one of the world's experts in the management of Lung Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer. She's spearheaded essential clinical trials in these areas, which have impacted the care of patients across the globe. Doing that work requires collaboration with other physicians and scientists to share knowledge and to translate that knowledge into patient care and into action.

Dr. Spencer has served as a leader on national guidelines committees for head and neck cancer treatments, acted as a leader on National Cancer Institute-designated protocol steering committees and serves her profession as a member of the workforce diversity task force for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. She has served on countless committees at the national level and has been active on her department and our School level, giving her time, expertise and perspective to these efforts.

She collaborates with her colleagues across three cancer care facilities and coordinates care with leaders at the new Proton Therapy Center. She collaborates with her patients, designing personalized treatments for each of them. She is always willing to see an extra patient and sets a terrific example by never letting a patient wait to get into Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Spencer an outstanding physician. She has been a true servant to our patients at UAB for more than 30 years, providing excellent and compassionate care.

She was named a fellow of the American College of Radiation Oncology in 2000 and was awarded the American Cancer Society Life Inspiration Award in 2005.

About the Award
Established in 2015 by former Alabama Gov. Albert P. Brewer, the Brewer-Heslin Award recognizes faculty physicians who exemplify the highest ideals of professionalism in the areas of:

- Dedication to providing highly skilled and deeply compassionate medical care and supporting access to such care for all people.
- Commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, including honesty and integrity in all matters and respect for all members of the health care team, including the patient and his or her family.
- Responsibility for the patient’s right to dignity, privacy and confidentiality within the bounds of law.
- Commitment to ethical principles related to the optimal provision of clinical care, and to seeking the talents and counsel of other health professionals when indicated.
- Dedication to lifelong learning through the pursuit of new knowledge, and to imparting such knowledge to physicians in training as well as to patients and the public.
- Responsibility for participating in activities that contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

Gov. Brewer’s gift was made in grateful appreciation for the care he received from – and the professionalism he has observed in – Dr. Martin J. Heslin, the James. P. Hayes Endowed Professor of Gastrointestinal Oncology.
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